REPORT RESUMES

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN ALASKA, A COLLECTION OF DATA PERTAINING TO KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OF HOME ECONOMICS AND HOW THESE CONTRIBUTE TO WAGE-EARNING OCCUPATIONS.

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ALASKA STATE DEPT. OF EDUCATION, JUNEAU

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INDIVIDUALS AND EMPLOYERS WERE INTERVIEWED IN 25 TOWNS AND VILLAGES DURING 1964-65 TO DETERMINE (1) EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN ALASKA, (2) PREVIOUS JOB TRAINING FOR WOMEN, (3) THE BEST METHODS OF TRAINING WOMEN FOR AVAILABLE EMPLOYMENT, (4) THE NEED FOR NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND (5) POSSIBLE NEW TRAINING PROGRAMS. INFORMATION ON THE ECONOMY, GEOGRAPHY, EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES, HEALTH SERVICES, AND WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT IS ORGANIZED BY GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS. BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS GIVEN ON THE EDUCATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF WOMEN, AND THE HEALTH PROBLEMS OF THE REGION. MANY WOMEN SEEKING WORK IN ALASKA WERE UNSKILLED. MANY ALASKAN FAMILIES LIVED IN SUBSTANDARD HOUSING BECAUSE OF LOW INCOME. JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LARGER TOWNS WERE MORE PLENTIFUL FOR THE TRAINED WOMEN BUT WERE SCARCE FOR THE UNTRAINED. EIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED--(1) THE EFFORT TO PREVENT HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS SHOULD BE INCREASED, (2) HIGH SCHOOLS SHOULD OFFER INTENSIVE COURSES IN HOME ECONOMICS FOR EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION IN SCHOOLS WHERE THE DROPOUT RATE IS HIGH, AND (3) VOCATIONAL EDUCATION FOR WOMEN SHOULD INCLUDE A COURSE IN MONEY MANAGEMENT. SEPARATE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE FOR ESKIMO VILLAGES. (MS)

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN
IN ALASKA

RELATED TO
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS USEFUL IN THE HOME
WHICH PROVIDE WAGE-EARNING OPPORTUNITIES

A REPORT
OF THE DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
STATE OF ALASKA, PURSUANT TO THE DIRECTIVE AS STATED IN THE VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION ACT OF 1963

1965

VT 000050

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN ALASKA

A collection of data pertaining to knowledge and skills of home economics and how these contribute to wage-earning occupations.

By

Elladean Hays Bittner
Home Economist

This research was approved by the State Board for Vocational Education in session on June 25, 1964, to be accomplished throughout Alaska in 1965 through the Division of Vocational Education with the cooperation of Anchorage Community College.

William T. Zahradnicek, Commissioner	Department of Education
Earl R. Hepler, Director	Division of Vocational Education

Home Economics Section

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION i

CHAPTER

I The Problem 1
- Purpose of the Study
- Importance of the Study
- Limitations of the Study

II Review of the Literature 4
- Alaska's Womanpower
- Native Employment
- Employment of Village Women
- Family Income in the Villages
- Native Education
- Adult Education

III Eskimo Villages 12
- Barrow
- Kotzebue
- Nome
- Saint Lawrence Island
  - Savoonga
  - Gambell
- Nushagak Bay - Lower Kuskokwim
  - Dillingham
  - Bethel
  - Aniak
  - Stony River
- Summary of Eskimo Villages
- Conclusions
- Recommendations

IV Fairbanks 64

V Fort Yukon 69

VI McGrath 79

VII Tyonek 81

VIII Anchorage 82

IX Matanuska Valley 94
- Palmer and Wasilla
- Wasilla
- Willow
- Talkeetna

CHAPTER

X Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak 102
  Seward
  Kenai
  Homer
  Kodiak

XI Southeastern Alaska 118
  Tlingit Indians
  Ketchikan
  Petersburg
  Wrangell
  Sitka
  Juneau-Douglas
  Haines
  Hoonah
  Cordova

XII Summary 160
  Conclusions
  Recommendations

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDIX

A Guide for Interviewing Employers
B Community Survey Form
C Guide for Interviewing Individuals
D Communities Visited

INTRODUCTION

The economy, climate, and population characteristics of Alaska are so varied regionally that it would have been impractical to try to reach conclusions pertaining to employment that could apply to the whole State, so this report is divided into sections that are related by geography, economy, and ethnic origins.

There was poverty in some of the villages as serious as that found anywhere in the United States. At the same time, many of the towns were enjoying an unprecedented prosperity; and, in some, the rate of increase in individual income was among the highest in the United States during 1964.

Anti-poverty programs and other government projects that were being introduced to Alaskan communities changed some conditions during the year and could be expected to have an effect on women's work, as well as to reduce the number of people on welfare and the number of high school dropouts.

Individuals and employers were interviewed in the twenty-five towns and villages visited. A list of these places and forms used as guides for the interviews and community surveys are shown in the appendix. Population information in the text, unless otherwise noted, is based upon United States census figures for 1960.

The term native is used for persons one-fourth or more Eskimo, Indian, or Aleut. The main body of the United States is referred to as Outside, in keeping with common Alaskan usage. Physically handicapped describes a person who has a physical or mental impairment which can be expected to be of a long-continued or indefinite duration and which substantially impedes his ability to live independently. A dropout is a student who leaves school for any reason before completing requirements for graduation from high school. Vocational education is a form of training, the purpose of which is to fit persons for useful employment.

For a better understanding of the problems related to the employment of native women, the following reports should be read: Alaska Native Arts and Crafts, Potential for Expansion, Final Report to Bureau of Indian Affairs, University of Alaska, 1964; and Alaskan Native Secondary School Dropouts, University of Alaska, 1962.

The author is indebted to Mrs. Pat Leonard for her assistance; to Mrs. Mildred Foster and Dr. Earl Hepler for their advice and encouragement; and to Mr. Eugene Short, Director of the Anchorage Community College, for making space and facilities available.

CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM

Purpose of the study. On August third, 1964, a research project was started to collect data pertaining to gainful and useful occupational skills of women in Alaska in order to carry out the directive as stated in the Vocational Education Act of 1963:

> "Ten per centum of the sums appropriated pursuant to Section 2 (authorization of appropriations section) for each fiscal year shall be used by the Commissioner to make grants to colleges and universities, and other public or non-profit private agencies and institutions, to State boards, and with approval of the appropriate State board to local educational agencies, to pay part of the cost of research and training programs and of experimental, developmental, or pilot programs developed by such institutions, boards, or agencies, and designed to meet the special vocational education needs of youths, particularly youths in economically depressed communities who have academic, socio-economic, or other handicaps that prevent them from succeeding in the regular vocational education programs."

Besides pointing out the need for research, the vocational law stated than ten per cent of the home economics funds in each state MUST be used in developing "gainful occupations for women and girls through development of the knowledge and skills of home economics".

The objectives of the survey were:

1. To become familiar with employment opportunities for women in Alaska.
2. To find out what training Alaskan women have already had for these jobs.
3. To determine ways that they can best be trained for available employment.
4. To investigate the need for new employment opportunities.
5. To suggest program development.

Importance of the study. The increase in the number of women combining the roles of homemaker and wage earner makes it necessary for them to be trained for proficiency in a job as well as in management and skills related to family life.

In order to know what programs should be provided to train women for employment utilizing home economics knowledge and skills, a study was made based upon the following assumptions:

1. The percentage of working women will continue to increase for several years.
2. Job opportunities for women are increasing and will continue to do so.
3. The opportunities in available jobs and the incidence of success will be greater for trained than for untrained women.
4. Training programs should be geared to present and projected employment opportunities.
5. Many families depend upon the wife's income to provide an acceptable standard of living.
6. Many women have not completed high school.
7. A significant number of women have not completed the eighth grade.
8. It is important to train some women for trades using homemaking skills so that they may realize income based upon these abilities.
9. Physically handicapped women can be given opportunities for employment.

10. Vocational education for women can fill a need not covered by other agencies.
11. Employers of women will benefit from hiring trained personnel.
12. There is a need for more day care centers for children of working mothers.
13. Legislation can improve work opportunities and working conditions for women.

Limitations of the study. Six months in appropriate periods throughout the fiscal year 1964-1965 were allotted for the study. The writer was designated to visit twenty-five cities and villages in Alaska to interview, survey, analyze data, report findings, and to suggest programs.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Alaska's womanpower. The Research and Analysis Section of the Alaska State Employment Service published a bulletin in 1963 which showed that 19 per cent of persons earning some income in Alaska during 1959 were wives of household heads and that 52 per cent of the married women in Alaska had earned some income that year. There were 23,600 women workers in Alaska in 1960, with the greatest number of these twenty-five to forty-four years of age. The bulletin showed that because of earlier marriages, mothers will be younger when their children reach school age and that more women between the ages of thirty-five and forty-four will be free to take jobs.[1]

The distribution of women seeking jobs through local offices of the Alaska State Employment Service by occupational classification in April, 1960, were as follows:[2]

Professional and Managerial	49
Clerical and Sales	462
Service	222
Skilled	7
Unskilled	81
Semi-skilled	33
Total Number	854

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[1] *Alaska's Manpower; A Look at the 1960's*. Prepared by Research and Analysis Section, Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, 1963. p. 9.

[2] *Ibid*., p. 25.

In connection with the above figures, taken from a table that included male workers as well as female, the report stated:

> The fact that many of the people looking for work are among segments of the workforce generally recognized as the most employable is an indication that more job development work needs to be done. Among the positive alternatives available are: fuller utilization by the community of the services available for bringing jobs and workers together; development of an adequate and work-oriented vocational education system, full participation in Federal programs designed to provide short intensive training for the unemployed; and continuation of vigorous efforts to promote increased utilization of Alaska's natural resources.[3]

This reflected a national trend. A United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare publication of 1962 showed that the older her children, the more likely it was that a mother was employed and that of all children twelve to seventeen years of age living in husband-wife families, 33 per cent had an employed mother. The leaflet also pointed out that economic necessity probably was the major reason why mothers worked and that the lower the father's income, the larger the proportion of children whose mothers were employed. Forty-four per cent of children, living with their employed mother only, had mothers whose income was less than $2,000 a year. An additional 39 per cent of this group had mothers whose income was between $2,000 and $4,000 a year.[4]

Day care for children of working mothers was largely in the hands of fathers or other relatives who cared for six out of ten children whose mothers were employed full time. The others were cared for away from home by relatives, neighbors, or in group care, or under other arrangements.

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[3] Ibid., p. 25.

[4] U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Social Security Administration, Children's Bureau. Working Mothers and Day Care Services in the United States. 1962. p. 2.

A survey in 1958 showed that about 400,000 children under twelve were expected to take care of themselves while their mothers worked full time.[5] Of the 22,219 women who were working in Alaska in 1960, 5,439 had children under six years of age.[6]

Native employment. Social and economic problems associated with acculturation of Alaskan natives were mentioned by several authors. The native populations, largest in the southwest and northwest regions, have the lowest employment growth potential, according to Rogers.[7]

The 1960 census showed that the income in the native villages was noticeably lower than in the towns with predominantly white populations. There had been little vocational training to prepare these people for jobs in the villages, or in the towns where many had moved since World War II.

Employment of village women. A report made by the Employment Security Division in 1964 showed that a census of ninety-one Eskimo communities taken in 1962 indicated that there were 1,244 women living in the area and that of this number thirty-five women, or 2.8 per cent had permanent employment and that forty-one had temporary employment. Permanently unemployed women numbered 513 and there were forty-six temporarily unemployed.[8]

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[5] Ibid., p. 2.

[6] Ibid., p. 4.

[7] George W. Rogers, "Preliminary Comments on Alaskan Native Population and Employment Prospects, 1960-2000." (Notes for talks by Dr. George W. Rogers given at the Bureau of Indian Affairs Employment Assistance Conference, Dec. 2-4, 1964, in Seattle, Wash., and Field Representatives Conference, Dec. 7-11, 1964, in Juneau, Alaska.) p. 6.

[8] Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Designer-Craftsman; (Arts and Crafts). Nome, 1964. p. 27.

Women's employment in the villages differed from the accustomed work in urban areas. VanStone pointed out that women contributed to the real income of the family in the villages in many ways. This was shown by a description of subsistence activities in Point Hope:

> Although men dominate the cycle of subsistence activities, women have a definite part to play. Men do all the hunting but women take an active part in hunting activities at all times of the year, and do most of the fishing. During whaling, women not only participate in the preparations when they sew new covers for the skin boats but they are an integral part of activities on the ice. A whaling camp that has no woman to take charge of the preparation and serving of meals is under a considerable hardship from the standpoint of both efficiency and comfort. In summer when boats leave for Cape Lisburne to hunt caribou and gather murre eggs, one or two women are usually in the crew and take an active part in every aspect of the trip, even to the extent of doing some hunting themselves. A man and his wife frequently hunt caribou together during the summer months. Women do all the preparation of meat and skins and thus have a keen interest in winter and spring hunting. A man and his wife thus form an active partnership for carrying out the subsistence activities. A woman helps her husband in innumerable ways each day; e.g., she may help him harness his dogs before he sets out to hunt in the early morning and be ready to aid him in unloading his catch in the evening.[9]

Hughes, in his study of an Eskimo village, found that the most important form of "unearned" income for the village as a whole was provided by the Department of Public Welfare of Alaska, which gave monthly financial aid such as general relief, old-age assistance, and aid to dependent children. He remarked that it had increased markedly through the years since 1940 and that the widow's allowance and the temporary assistance given to a family when the husband was sick or disabled had begun to be considered perhaps more as a "way to make money" than as temporary financial assistance. For people with little income or no income, the welfare checks were greatly prized.[10]

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[9] James W. VanStone, Point Hope. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1962. p. 76.

Family income in the villages. ". . . in 1955, the distribution of estimated income by families was recorded as follows:

Under $100	$100-$199	$200-$299	$300-$399	$400-$499
2	1	2	1	1

$500-$749	$750-$999	$1,000-$1,499	$1,500-$1,999
9	7	15	10

These figures were obtained from records compiled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and are supposed to include both earned income and an estimated cash value for native products. Since it is practically impossible to estimate the money value of things such as seals, tomcod, and whale meat, the foregoing figures should be considered as only approximate. It appears, though, that half the families in the village have an income of more than $1,000 a year, most of which doubtless comes from summer employment.[11]

Native education. Havighurst made the following statement about the cultural and individual aspects of Indian education, which may well apply to the Alaskan native:

> . . . American Indian groups have not taken part in American education at the secondary and higher levels as have European immigrant groups . . . [They] have clung to enough of their traditional cultures to prevent them from adopting fully the white American culture, including its attitudes toward education and its use of education as a means of social mobility and occupational achievement.
>
> . . . It seems that the Indian groups who do move into the American culture do so at the lower economic levels and require a generation or two to learn the ways of upward mobility, including the use of education for this purpose.
>
> Individual Indians have done very well in the American educational system by committing themselves to learning the dominant American culture and living in it. The number of such people is relatively small and gives evidence of the great holding power of many of the traditional Indian cul-

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[10] Charles C. Hughes, *An Eskimo Village in the Modern World*. Ithace, New York: 1960. pp. 204-205.

[11] VanStone, *op. cit.*, p. 145.

tures upon their members.[12]

Adult education. A State Board of Vocational Education, the official governing body of vocational education, was responsible for the administration of Federal programs within the State: Smith Hughes Act, Public Law 347, George-Barden Act, National Defense Education Act, Manpower Development and Training Act, Area Redevelopment Act, and the Vocational Education Act of 1963. The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, Public Law 88-452, provided education for employability, though not under the direct jurisdiction of vocational education.[13]

Nationally, the Manpower Development and Training Act was administered by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare through the Office of Education. The Secretary of Labor directed surveys of employment opportunities in each state and was responsible for selection of trainees, payment of training allowances, and placement.

An expression of the need for a greatly expanded program of adult education in the villages was made by members of the Task Force on Alaska Native Affairs. They recommended that the program should be directed toward more than reducing the rate of illiteracy among the older natives. They suggested that it should include instruction in community organization, the preparation and preservation of foods, gardening, the development of small industries in the home and in the village, and the conservation of fish and game.[14]

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[12] Robert J. Havighurst, "Education Among American Indians: Individual and Cultural Aspects", American Indians and American Life. Philadelphia: The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, May, 1957. pp. 114-115.

[13] What is Vocational Education? Juneau, Alaska: Department of Education, Division of Vocational Education, [1965].

The Division of Statewide Services, University of Alaska, included all general extension education, off-campus and public service activities typically provided at any of the land-grant universities. It made available to residents of the State not enrolled as regular students, educational programs of a non-credit as well as of a credit nature and other special services.

Many native young people were not eligible for admission to college because of the inadequacy of their earlier education. A study in 1960 showed that over one-fourth of the native children between fourteen and nineteen years of age were not in school and that almost one-third of the 5,365 children of that age group were still in elementary school.[15]

Professor Lee Salisbury of the University of Alaska said:

> Although the Alaskan native college entrant has already survived an attrition rate as high as 60 per cent in grade school and 28 per cent in high school and is assured of continuing BIA financial support, he has only one chance out of 24 of receiving a college degree---exactly half that of his non-native Alaskan counterpart.[16]

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' Branch of Employment Assistance administered two types of programs: employment assistance for those adults seeking job opportunities in the continental United States, and adult vocational training to help Indians and Eskimos obtain satisfactory employment through vocational counseling, institutional training, apprenticeships, and on-the-job training. Indians and Eskimos qualifying for this assistance had to be between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five. Financial assistance in the form of grants was given during the training period.[17]

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[14] Report to the Secretary of the Interior by the Task Force on Alaska Native Affairs: W. W. Keeler, Hugh Wade, and James E. Officer, December 28, 1962. p. 16.

[15] Ibid., p. 11.

[16] Lee Salisbury as quoted in the Anchorage Daily Times, August 11, 1964.

During the year that research was conducted for this report, Federal authorities had become interested in accelerating anti-poverty programs, and vocational education offerings in the State had been expanded, many of them to train women. Courses in practical nursing and office work had been particularly popular in the urban areas. Many hard-to-reach people in the lower income classifications and sparsely populated areas still had economic needs that weren't being met by current training programs, obvious to the most casual observer traveling in the remote areas. Administrators of many government agencies were aware of this situation.

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[17] Emil Kowalczyk, Adult Education In-Service Training Session, Fairbanks, Alaska, January 13-17, 1964. p. 58.

CHAPTER III

ESKIMO VILLAGES

Geography. The Eskimo villages with which this study was concerned were located on the shore of the Chuckchi and Beaufort Seas north of 59°. The main populations were along, or near, the mouths of the Kobuk, Noatak, Ipewik, Avalik, Meade, and Ikpikpuk Rivers, all of which drain into the Arctic Ocean, and the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers draining into the Bering Sea. Dillingham was included, although it was further south, because the sociology and economy were so similar.

The climate of the Arctic was described by Spencer as follows:[1]

> In the truest sense, the Alaskan Arctic plain is a desert. Rain and snowfall are very slight, averaging not more than 5 to 7 inches per year . . . The principal basis for seasonal differentiation lies not in rainfall, but in the differing intensity of temperature and in the length of daylight. The brief summer season is marked by a thaw and, for a two-month period, by 24-hour sunshine. The transition from 24 hours of sunlight in late July to the fall equinox is most rapid, and, again, the shift from the equinox to the winter solstice involves the change in a short period from 12 hours of daylight to total darkness. At Point Barrow, for example, at 71° 23' N., 72 days of winter darkness, beginning November 15, are the rule. Temperature changes cannot be regarded as extreme. In summer, the averages hover somewhat above freezing, although highs of 60° or 65° F. may be reached for short periods. From this, there is a gradual shift to the winter temperatures. These are not so extreme as might be imagined, particularly along the coast where 30° F. below zero may be regarded as essentially average . . . The winter temperatures of the region, while by no means so cold in comparison with the 50° to 70° below zero readings of the deeper interior, as in the forested zones of continental type climate, are nonetheless infinitely more severe as a result of intensity of wind. In the Arctic plain and foothills, a somewhat more adequate adjustment on the part of humans in terms of clothing and housing is a necessity. The frigid winters are very long and the summer brief. Physiographic change is slow and little climatic variation has been noted since the 1880's when climatic

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[1] Robert F. Spencer, The North Alaskan Eskimo. Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 171. U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1959, pp. 11-12.

data were compiled for the first time and the coastal temperatures at Point Barrow were found to average on a yearly basis 8° F. above zero (Murdoch, 1892, p. 30). Streams and lakes are blocked with ice for much of the year and usually by November the ice has begun to form on the ocean, creating a pack which may remain unbroken until the following summer, often as late as August or September, or later.

Development of these northern villages was limited by permafrost which made it difficult to secure a safe supply of water and a sanitary method of disposing of human waste.

Population. Barrow, with 2,133 and the Kobuk with 3,560 represented the most highly populated election districts in the Alaskan Arctic in 1960.[2]

Village populations at that time were as follows:

Barrow	1,314
Kivalina	142
Kotzebue	1,290
Noatak	275
Noorvik	384
Point Hope	324
Selawik	348
Shishmaref	217
Wainwright	253

The native population represented 84.9 per cent of the total number of inhabitants in these election districts.

There were 1,605 natives in Barrow, 1,599 of whom were born in Alaska and 3,232 in the Kobuk district, with 3,180 of that number having been born in the State.

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[2] Bureau of Vital Statistics, Alaska Department of Health and Welfare. Population of Election Districts: 1960 and Population of All Incorporated Places and of Unincorporated Places of 25 or More: 1960 and 1950. Juneau: March 1, 1961. pp. 1-9.

Marital and family status were reported as follows:

Non-white Population	Barrow	Kobuk
Married couples	239	437
With own household	222	411
With own children under 6	192	274
With own children under 18	209	338
With husband under 45	146	254
Families	237	530
Husband-wife families	222	411
With own children under 6	175	286
With own children under 18	195	369
Unrelated individuals	90	132
Persons under 18 years old	905	1,728
Living with both parents	853	1,389

ADULT POPULATIONS BY SEX AND AGE OF FOUR ESKIMO VILLAGES

Age Group: Sex:	15 - 24 M F	25 - 34 M F	35 - 44 M F	45 - 54 M F	55 - 64 M F
Kotzebue	133 - 83	117 - 71	77 - 50	58 - 41	34 - 19
Noorvik	39 - 25	24 - 21	26 - 25	10 - 7	8 - 5
Point Hope	33 - 23	23 - 16	11 - 10	13 - 13	5 - 5
Shishmaref	20 - 12	12 - 14	11 - 11	7 - 7	6 - 1

Exhibit A: A paper supplied by E. Arthur Patterson, Projects Development Officer, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Nome, Alaska, on August 21, 1964.

Economy of the Arctic villages. Government spending was the basis of the economy in the larger villages. In Barrow and Kotzebue Federal money was spent for construction and operation of Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, Alaska Native Service hospitals, military sites, and Alaska Communications System stations. In Barrow the Arctic Research Laboratory was used for scientific activities.

Scheduled airlines and bush air operations added to the real income and upgraded the standard of living by making goods available. Shipping, barging, and lightering continued to provide wage-earning opportunities.

Oil and mineral exploration brought money into many villages along the Arctic coast and inward. It was reported in August, 1964, that American and Canadian-British petroleum groups were contemplating the use of nuclear powered submarine tankers to move the oil directly from the fields north of the Brooks Range across the Arctic basin to European markets. Some geologists thought that the Arctic slope might have the greatest petroleum potential of any geological province within the United States.[3]

Hotels and restaurants were built to care for the people involved in the above activities. A soda fountain was installed in Barrow and barber chairs and beauty parlor equipment were acquired, awaiting qualified operators. Plans were being made in Barrow and Kotzebue for serve-yourself laundry and dry cleaning machines. It was not clear to the writer that a safe and dependable water supply could be provided for these activities. Natural gas was made available for the citizens of Barrow in the spring of 1965.

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[3] Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions. College, Alaska: Institute of Business, Economic and Government Research, August, 1964. p. 4.

Paying jobs were more available for men than women. The women contributed in many ways to the hunting-fishing economy and prepared some items of clothing. However, the refined skin sewing, beadwork, and basketry were not found among the Arctic people as much as among the Interior natives.

Opportunities for female occupations were limited as shown by the following census report:

INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, FEMALE 1960

	Barrow	Kobuk
Female	36	159
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	--	5
Manufacturing	--	5
Nondurable Goods (Incl. Not Spec. Mnfgd.)	--	5
Transportation, Communications, and Other Public Util.	4	8
Food and Dairy Products Stores	--	5
Eating and Drinking Places	5	15
Personal Services	--	34
Hospitals	17	29
Educational Services: Government	6	17
Other Professional and Related Services	4	3
Public Administration	--	14
Industry Not Reported	--	24

Money management problems were simple. More than half the families had only enough income for bare subsistence.

Family income in 1959 was as follows:

	Barrow	Kobuk
All families	260	598
Under $1,000	18	131
$1,000 to $1,999	63	148
$2,000 to $2,999	31	59
$3,000 to $3,999	24	78
$4,000 to $4,999	23	39
$5,000 to $5,999	23	45
$6,000 to $6,999	27	28
$7,000 to $7,999	8	22
$8,000 to $8,999	36	15
$9,000 to $9,999	--	--
$10,000 and over	--	12
Median Income: Families	$3,750	$2,339

Although the median income did not compare unfavorably with the national figures, it was important to be aware that the cost of living at that time was considerably higher than the national average. Inaccessibility, cold temperatures, and a permafrost condition made it impossible for even those with the highest incomes to maintain a way of life that had become standard for the average family in the main body of the United States. Fresh produce prices were a good illustration of this difference. In August, 1964, one could buy an aging head of lettuce in Barrow for $1.37 and a tube of tomatoes for $1.20. The more accessible village of Kotzebue offered medium-sized oranges for twenty cents each. It must be remembered, however, that the Arctic people still relied heavily on birds, animals, and fish to supplement their food supply and that berries and greens still made an important contribution to native diets. The innovation of natural gas was expected to make a considerable saving in heating costs in Barrow.

According to Bureau of Indian Affairs figures, Alaska's 43,000 Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts in fifty villages harvested 2,092,193 pounds of game animals and by-products in 1962. They showed that 10,028 people and 9,754 work dogs were dependent to some degree upon this food supply. In addition, during that year, these villages harvested 96,207 pounds of game birds, collected 670 dozen wild bird eggs, and gathered and consumed over 100,000 pounds of edible berries and plants. Furthermore, they caught and used 2,146,676 pounds of fish from fresh water and ocean, bringing the total of wild animal products consumed to 4,335,076 pounds in 1962.

Compared to the 430,000 pounds of reindeer meat produced in 1963, some of which went to outside markets, it was believed that more than 90 per cent of the animal products consumed by the native population in the northern villages was from fish and game.[4]

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[4] Ibid., July, 1964. p. 5.

Women's employment. It must be remembered that the census figures could now show the whole picture. Not only was the work affected by the seasons, but also by the sporadic nature of many of the outside enterprises started in these communities. During the summer of 1964, for instance, there was more employment for women as more money was being spent in stores, eating places, and hotels. Construction of a hospital, school, and armory as well as the oil exploration made this possible. One government official estimated the female employment at that time to be seventy individuals. At the same time it was indicated that there were vacancies for female employment because of lack of trained women. The official predicted a 50 per cent projection in female workers required the following year. Everyone interviewed, men as well as women, expressed interest in the possibility of a beauty parlor's being installed and hoped that girls could be trained as beauticians.

Six girls interviewed who were working as waitresses in the eating places were students at Mt. Edgecumbe or the Bureau of Indian Affairs college at Lawrence, Kansas. It was obvious that the educated women in Barrow had an advantage over the others, even in the less-skilled jobs.

The welfare agent, a well-educated native woman of forty-eight who had given birth to her thirteenth child, suggested that a day care center for children of working mothers was badly needed. She pointed out that girls needed more instruction in sewing and preparation for hospital aide jobs. She mentioned, as did every employer interviewed, that women needed the proper training for the things that they were already doing. One woman made a living by keeping the parkas of the men stationed at a nearby military site in repair.

A non-native woman in a managerial position said that the residents of Barrow had a good understanding of money and what it will buy. She said that children of the village at that time were spending a total of $125.00 a day on candy. (This figure was not checked.) She also stated that it cost fourteen dollars to have a "load" of laundry done in Fairbanks. A girl in a hotel, she said, was now doing the same job in Barrow for two dollars, using cold water. She expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of professional attitudes by the local employees toward their jobs and said that several employers were considering bringing in help from "Outside" because of undependability of the local help and their lack of responsibility in sticking to a job or reporting in when they knew they would be absent. Although Barrow was a "dry" town, apparently liquor was brought in for private use and still constituted a problem for both men and women. The woman mentioned expressed concern over the fact that there was little or nothing for the girls just out of the eighth grade to do.

The local attitude toward regular work must be evaluated in the light of understanding the importance of hunting and fishing to the natives. The fact that game and fish could be acquired only at certain times made it necessary for the people to take advantage of these times. This did not always fit into the pattern of the currently accepted attitudes toward work habits.

Educational facilities. A high school was being built. Meanwhile, there were fifty girls attending secondary schools in other towns, according to a Bureau of Indian Affairs official.

Adult education conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Barrow included the formal learning activities: reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, grammar and conversation. Informal learning activities took the form of village meetings regarding planning of community projects: natural gas for Barrow, road construction, house moving, village cooperatives, housing projects and townsite and survey meetings.

One Barrow woman, a cardiac case, was receiving vocational rehabilitation under the program of the State Department of Education. There was no evidence of handicapped women working in the village.

The younger women interviewed were all interested in further education and the older women put great stock in more education for their children, not only for prestige, but for economic reasons. The majority of the women over twenty-five had an education of sixth grade or less.

Health services. The Alaska Native Service (ANS) hospital played an important part in the economy, as well as the physical well-being, of the community. At the time of the survey there were nine women working there at permanent jobs in food service, housekeeping, laundry, and as hospital aides and practical nurses. The technical staff and clerical help were trained people from "Outside". The non-technical employees ranged in age from twenty-three to forty-five and all except two had been working there less than three years. Two had been there for twenty years.

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[5] Emil Kowalczyk, Adult Education In-Service Training Session, Fairbanks, Alaska, January 13-17, 1964. p. 23.

KOTZEBUE

Economy and geography. Kotzebue, located near the mouths of the Kobuk and Noatak Rivers, the chief trading center for that area, had a population in 1960 of 1,290, 86 per cent of whom were one-quarter or more Eskimo.

Business and governmental activity during the summer of 1964 gave the village an air of prosperity. However, 22 women were listed on the welfare rolls at that time, mostly for aid to dependent children.

An Air Force station three miles from town with a staff of eighty-five men and an Alaska National Guard unit, made up of native personnel, provided some income for the village.

The Federal government was represented in the community by: Federal Aviation Agency, Weather Bureau, Public Health Hospital, Public Health dentist, Federal Health and Welfare Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs School and Range Conservation Office, Alaska Communication System, Post Office, and White Alice. The State government maintained a Fish and Game office, State trooper, and Welfare officer.[6]

The types and numbers of businesses were as follows:[7]

Retail Stores - 8, oil company - 1, poultry farm - 1, marine freight - 1, construction - 1, airlines - 2, flying services - 4, cab companies - 4, hotels - 4, restaurants - 4, theatre - 1, dance halls - 2, coffee shops - 2, bank - 1, telephone company - 1, electric association - 1, amusement company - 1, water supply - 2, mining exploration - 1, auto repairs - 1.

A minority of the available workers were employed full time. The majority derived income from seasonal work, unemployment and welfare checks, trapping, fishing, and art-craft work. Hunting was mentioned as a source of unearned income.[8]

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[6] Kotzebue Community Survey, 1964. Prepared by BIA School Personnel. pp. 3-4.

[7] Ibid., p. 4.

The report listed the chief sources of employment as follows:[9]

a. Professional services
   Notably hospital and BIA school

b. Construction
   Seasonal

c. Wholesale and retail stores
   Provide steady employment

d. Service trade
   Primarily owner-operated

e. Tourism
   Summer

f. Mining
   Copper mine expected to provide steady employment

g. Fishing
   Floating cannery in the summer

h. Arts and crafts
   Ivory, jade carving, and native dances

i. Transportation and communication

There were three hotels, all small. The cost of living was 186 per cent, based upon Seattle as 100 per cent. Kotzebue's first self-service (and only) laundry opened in September of 1964. This included twelve automatic washers, four tri-load dryers, and two dry cleaning machines.

Educational facilities. The Bureau of Indian Affairs operated an elementary school and planned to open a high school in 1966. The latter was to include eleven classrooms, shops, home economics rooms, and a gymnasium. Meanwhile, eighty-four girls were attending high school away from home---twelve at Chemawa, forty-two at Mt. Edgecumbe and thirty at Wrangell.

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[8] *Ibid*., p. 4.

[9] *Ibid*., p. 5.

Enrollment and school population were:[10]

Elementary	375
BIA High School	25
Friends' High School	30

Four hundred of the students were classified as "native".

The Friends' High School had four women teachers, all of whom had been there less than four years.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs adult education program was taught by two teachers to twenty students. The curriculum was made up of remedial English and mathematics, regular classes in civics, mathematics, English, and various correspondence courses, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs report.

There was a Roman Catholic kindergarten, but no day care center for children. The employers interviewed mentioned the need for well-trained persons to provide day care for working mothers' children.

Women's employment. An estimated ninety-four women were working in Kotzebue at such jobs as cooks, hotel maids, grocery store clerks, fish canners, nurses and related hospital jobs, and airline station managers. Some of the problems mentioned by employers were the lack of professional attitude toward a job, inadequate training, and drinking.

The Alaska Native Service Hospital, operated by the United States Department of Health and Welfare, hired forty-three women in an age range of eighteen to sixty years for the following positions:

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[10] Ibid., p. 9.

Food Service Workers	6
Aides	14
Registered Nurses	11
Dental Assistants	1
Clerical Workers	5
Housekeepers and Laundry Workers	6

Two-thirds of these employees had been there less than three years. One had been on the staff since 1949.

Each hotel employed from five to eight women during the summer.

Candid comments regarding job opportunities for women follow:

Private employer: "What you people are trying to do is fine and I admire you very much for it, but it is of no use unless you can stop the drinking. They are no good for work when they get to drinking. If you gave them a choice between a bottle of whiskey and this building, they would take the whiskey. Any kind of training would help if it would keep them on the job."

(Kotzebue was a "dry" town at the time of the survey.)

Educator: "There would probably be a need for day care centers for teachers' children, but heating and room is the problem."

Educator's wife: "Maybe they would rather have someone come to their homes to take care of their children so they could do other work."

Oldtimer: "The main income here is welfare."

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, AND SELECTED LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION, FEMALE, OF BARROW AND KOBUK ELECTION DISTRICTS

		Barrow	Kobuk*
Years of School Completed			
Female, 25 Years Old and Over		243	614
No School Years Completed		65	105
Elementary:	1 to 4 years	93	133
	5 and 6 years	33	164
	7 years	9	47
	8 years	16	85
High School:	1 to 3 years	--	14
	4 years	9	20
College	1 to 3 years	6	15
	4 years or more	12	31
Median School Years Completed		3.4	5.8

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*The Kobuk election district included Ambler, Buckland (Elephant Point), Candle, Deering, Kiana, Kivalina, Kobuk, Kotzebue, Noatak, Noorvik, Point Hope, Selawik, and Shungnak.

AGE OF PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE, FEMALE

	Barrow	Kobuk
14 to 17 Years Old	--	14
18 to 24 Years Old	23	47
25 to 34 Years Old	24	49
35 to 44 Years Old	--	32
45 to 64 Years Old	16	36
65 Years Old and Over	--	9
Married Women in Labor Force Husband Present	36	98
Women in Labor Force with Own Children Under 6	32	63
Married, Husband Present	32	54

NOME

__Economy and geography__. Nome, a city of 2,316 people, was situated at 64° 30' N. and 165° 24' W. on the southwest coast of the Seward Peninsula on the Bering Sea in typical arctic terrain with the usual problems of permafrost, limited water supply, and flooding.

Nome had been an important gold mining center at the turn of the century; but in 1964, its economy was largely dependent upon tourism and government employment. Recent projects were: a water and sewer system, a vocational school, a Bureau of Indian Affairs student dormitory, an armory, and a Federal Building.

Nome was the center of an election district of 6,091 people in 1960. Village populations were:

Diomede	88	Savoonga	299
Elim	145	Shaktoolik	187
Gambell	358	Shishmaref	217
Golovin	59	Stebbins	158
King Island	66	Teller	217
Koyuk	129	Teller Mission	77
Mekoryuk	242	Unalakleet	574
Nome	2,316	Wales	128
St. Michael	205	White Mountain	151

Tourist items of jade, ivory, and fur sold fairly well, although traders had difficulty providing a steady and standarized supply. The Nome Skin Sewers Cooperative Association whose members had developed a reputation for the production of fine fur garments had closed. One reason given was that the woman who had been the leader was no longer able to continue working and no one was prepared to take her place.

Year-around work was found with the airlines, stores, bars, restaurants, hotels, and other service industries. Mining and freighting provided some jobs during the summer. The 1960 census figures showed that family income was extremely low for 1,166 families in 1959.

For several years natives had been moving in to Nome from villages, adding to the number of unskilled employable persons. The case of the King Island Eskimos who had come in from a rocky island in the Bering Sea to find employment and improve living conditions illustrated some of the problems encountered by the villagers.[11]

Although there was no commercial fishing in this area, many families depended upon catching their winter supply for personal use. The personal and economic habits of the natives living in Nome showed that they had become much more money orientated than their friends in the smaller villages. State and Bureau of Indian Affairs officials had been concerned with the lack of a basic economy in Nome since the waning of the gold mining industry.

Reindeer herding, which had been sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, with six or eight steady herders, showed some promise. A report to the Bureau of Indian Affairs by Arthur D. Little, Inc., pointed out that the Seward Peninsula was one of the two most favorable areas for reindeer grazing in the State. It suggested that the six herds existing in 1963 might be able to produce 800,000 pounds of meat by the end of a five-year phase. The report showed that 482,000 pounds of meat valued at $182,000 were already being consumed and that Nome, which used some 90,000 pounds, was the largest customer for reindeer meat and had an appropriate location for a canning plant.

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[11] Tundra Times. October 5, 1964.

The report recommended improvement in range management and animal husbandry practices to overcome such adverse factors as: the competition with other meats, dietary deficiencies which affected the health of the animals, warble fly infestation, and loss of animals to predators. In addition, there had been a history of failure by the herdsmen in carrying out a job that was incompatible with their established way of life.[12] It might be said, then, that the reindeer industry had not been successful since its introduction to Alaska and could not be depended upon to affect the employment outlook for women, at least for many years.

Besides filling job needs, the State Employment Service was involved in helping to set up Manpower Retraining programs.

Educational facilities. One building housed the elementary and high schools. The Nome Vocational School, four miles from town, was administered jointly by the State Department of Education through its Division of Vocational Education and the State Department of Labor through its Employment Security Division. It was planned to provide job training for 200 persons and in 1964-1965 was offering bush airfield maintenance, arts and crafts, small engine maintenance and repair, and highway engineering technology. Class offerings were based on research made through the Federal Office of Manpower, Automation and Training for a demonstration manpower program.[13]

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[12] Arthur D. Little, Inc., An Evaluation of the Feasibility of Native Industry in Northwestern Alaska. Report to BIA, September, 1963. pp. 16-40.

[13] Tundra Times. June 22, 1964.

One concern was to provide basic education in reading, writing, and arithmetic and an understanding of the social structure of the modern world as well as training in skills.

Further educational opportunities for the native population of Nome were provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Some of the trainees were enrolled in a special program at Fairbanks; others were going to school "Outside".

Of the seven girls who had been graduated from high school in Nome the preceding year, three were continuing their education---one at Alaska Methodist University; one at the University of Alaska; and one "Outside".

One home demonstration agent with the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture covered an area along the coast from a few miles south of Unalakleet to Point Hope.

Health services. The Department of Health and Welfare was represented by nurses, a doctor, and a dentist. Besides caring for the ailing, they carried out a program of preventive medicine and health education concerned with purity of water supply, disposal of human waste, and control of contagious diseases. The latter was of great concern in this area for, as Rodahl pointed out, the infant mortality rate among the Eskimos was twice as high as that of the other states, and tuberculosis caused thirty times more deaths among the Eskimos than among the whites in America.[14]

A Methodist mission hospital in the town served the community. Natives requiring hospitalization or extended and specialized care could go to the Alaska Native Service hospital in Anchorage.

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[14] Kaare Rodahl, M. D., The Last of the Few. New York, Evanston and London: Harper and Row, 1963.

Women's employment. The ever recurring theme of disinterest and undependability, drinking, and not showing up for work was woven into conversations of employers. One, who had recently purchased a business, was particularly bitter about the employment problem. Another, who had worked in the bush as well as in Nome, had adapted his operation to the ways of the people, seemingly to the satisfaction of both. Another, a newcomer, deplored the work attitudes as being "unreal".

A shop specializing in tourist trade had partially solved the problem by providing boxes of pre-cut materials and trim for slippers which were given to women who were known to do dependable work. This was particularly good for older women whose teeth were not in good condition to shape the mukluk or slipper sole, although this process was often done with pliers by the younger women.

Although business in Nome was considered slow, there was a demand for trained office workers, particularly typists. As in many other towns surveyed, the skilled job was often held by a non-native.

Some of the employers of women were:

Hospital	36
School	25
Curio Shop	7
Hotel-Restaurant	8

The hospital jobs were:

Registered Nurse	10	Housekeeper	2
Nurse's Aide	12	Secretary	4
Cafeteria	4	Physical Therapist	1
Laundry	2	Laboratory Technician	1

Governmental agencies and airlines provided office jobs. There was a good demand for baby-sitters and light housekeepers since many of the working women were between twenty and forty years of age, had small children at home, and there was no day care center for children of working mothers and no school lunch program.

An agent of the State Employment Service said that female employment was low at the time and that training for the following occupations would be helpful: domestic, clerical, food service, hospital, institutional child care, and hotel service. He pointed out that the dormitory for the students at the vocational school would provide additional employment. The cafeteria in that school was expected to provide steady employment for some women.

Talks with working women showed that most of them had worked on their present jobs less than two years. Many of them were unskilled and an observation of some of them at work showed their need for training.

The good skin sewers were, in most cases, women of forty or older. The younger native women were holding jobs in government offices, stores, and hotels, or in private homes.

OCCUPATION GROUP AND CLASS OF WORKER
OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, FEMALE: 1960

NOME ELECTION DISTRICT

Female, Employed	392
Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers	72
Medical and Other Health Workers: Salaried	21
Teachers, Elementary and Secondary Schools	34
Other Professional, Etc.: Salaried	17
Managers, Officials, and Proprietors, Except Farm	28
Salaried	12
Self-employed, Retail Trade	12
Other Than Retail Trade	4
Clerical and Kindred Workers	71
Secretaries, Stenographers, and Typists	12
Other Clerical Workers	59
Sales Workers	12
Retail Trade	8
Other Than Retail Trade	4
Craftsmen, Foremen, and Kindred Workers	9
Operatives and Kindred Workers	13
Durable Goods Manufacturing	4
Non-manufacturing	9
Private Household Workers	83
Service Workers, Except Private Household	68
Waiters, Bartenders, Cooks, and Counter Workers	27
Other Service Workers	41
Occupations Not Reported	36

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, AND SELECTED LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION, FEMALE

NOME ELECTION DISTRICT

Years of School Completed		
Female, 25 Years Old and Over		983
No School Years Completed		95
Elementary:	1 to 4 Years	216
	5 and 6 Years	201
	7 Years	89
	8 Years	106
High School:	1 to 3 Years	71
	4 Years	70
College:	1 to 3 Years	56
	4 Years or More	79
Median School Years Completed		6.8

AGES OF PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE, FEMALE

NOME ELECTION DISTRICT

14 to 17 Years Old	41
18 to 24 Years Old	119
25 to 34 Years Old	110
35 to 44 Years Old	130
45 to 64 Years Old	74
65 Years Old and Over	8
Married Women in Labor Force, Husband Present	228
Women in Labor Force With Own Children Under 6	119
Married, Husband Present	97

EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF FEMALES 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER

NOME ELECTION DISTRICT

Female, 14 Years Old and Over	1,453
Labor Force	482
Employed	392
Unemployed	90
Not in Labor Force	971
Inmate of Institution	...
Enrolled in School	172
Other, Under 65 Years Old	734
With Own Children Under 6	388
Married, Husband Present	358
Other, 65 Years Old and Over	65

FAMILY INCOME IN 1959

NOME ELECTION DISTRICT

All Families	687
Under $1,000	143
$1,000 to $1,999	153
$2,000 to $2,999	107
$3,000 to $3,999	76
$4,000 to $4,999	41
$5,000 to $5,999	42
$6,000 to $6,999	36
$7,000 to $7,999	21
$8,000 to $8,999	17
$9,000 to $9,999	16
$10,000 and Over	35
Median Income: Families	$2,444

SAINT LAWRENCE ISLAND

Economy and geography. The island, lying thirty-eight miles southeast of Indian Point, Siberia, was about one hundred miles long and twenty miles wide, the largest island in the Bering Sea. Between 168° 45' and 171° 50' west longitude and 63° and 63° 38' north latitude, it was assailed by storms the year round, although extremely low temperatures were uncommon. Precipitation could be expected for 300 days of the year, but high winds prevented an accumulation of snow.

Sub-arctic, low growing plants, some of them edible, covered the island. Birds and animals of the land and sea provided food and materials for clothing. Sea mammals were perhaps a more important source, walrus and seal being most available. Waterfowl and their eggs were the main source of protein food during the summers. Cliffs along the island's edge and inland marshes were nesting places for auklets, sea gulls, cranes, loons, puffins, ducks, geese, and other birds.

Foxes and ground squirrels were indigenous to the island; however, the latter were not as popular for parkas as the seal. Reindeer had been introduced in 1900. This had been a successful operation and the herd had increased to several thousand in 1940, but at the time of this survey it was estimated that the herd numbered between 900 and 1,000 and grazed near Savoonga.

Subsistence activities, particularly the hunting of walrus and seal, still formed the backbone of the economy. Welfare and the sale of carved ivory, baleen products, handmade dolls, fur slippers, seal and fox skins, walrus ivory, and archaeological specimens, provided the main cash income.

Scheduled airline service brought passengers and mail to the island three times weekly.

Men were employed in the native stores, as airline agents, postmasters, school custodians, assistants in the Bureau of Indian Affairs education program, and as guides when a big game hunt was organized.

Women found jobs in the school lunch program, as baby sitters and occasionally as housekeepers, as saleswomen for beauty products, in a native-owned coffee shop, and in the post office. They also sold specimens that they dug from the ancient site and fur products which they made.

SAVOONGA

Economy and geography. Savoonga was on the north side of St. Lawrence Island, some fifty miles east of Gambell. The town was at the water's edge, accessible by a one and one-half mile walk from the airport through marshy tundra. During the summer water stood on the ground in the village, making it necessary to have board walks connecting the buildings. In the summer water was piped from a spring to an elevated tank in the center of the village. Typical tundra vegetation, including lichen, spread from the village edge to the low-lying hills in the center of the island. Savoonga was somewhat protected from the ocean storms, but appeared to have more of a drainage problem than the villages located on the beaches of coarse gravel.

A small point of land, into which a wind-protected "pillbox" had been built, was almost continuously occupied during the day by men and boys watching for birds and seals to shoot. High cliffs were used by waterfowl for nesting. Almost every house had from one to three birds, cleaned and plucked, hanging from a rack near the entrance. Fishing provided a variety to the summer diets, although none were caught for commercial trade.

Unearned income from hunting and fishing was important to the economy. Wage-earning opportunities were provided by several State and Federal jobs: postmaster, sanitation officer, and National Guard captain. Employment in airport construction had been available during the summer of 1964 for eight men, a small percentage of the total crew. Two men worked in the council-owned store.

The coming of the airplane to Savoonga (it was the last community in Alaska to receive its mail by dogsled in the winter and umiak in the summer) may lead to a widening of the economic base; but at the time of the survey the building of a new schoolhouse and a road from the airstrip to the village were the only projects mentioned. These were expected to provide jobs for another summer.

Residents prided themselves on being good workers and managers. There were many indications of thrift and industry and good use of local resources.

Educational facilities. The Bureau of Indian Affairs teachers estimated that the ninety-seven pupil school would increase to 130 students five years hence. There were eight girls attending school "Outside"---seven at Chemawa and one at Mt. Edgecumbe. There were no adult classes. The council president mentioned receiving bulletins from the extension service and suggested that it would be good for the women to be taught canning.

Some men were attending the Nome Vocational School. One handicapped girl had been educated "Outside" and was trained for typing and sewing. However, there were no employment opportunities for her in the village, except as a part-time domestic.

Health services. The two nurse's aides took care of routine health matters. A dentist and a doctor from Nome, mentioned earlier, made occasional trips to Savoonga.

A village sanitation officer was paid to take the responsibility for the water supply and sewage disposal. The presence of an internal cyst-forming organism, Echinococcus granulosus, which was carried by dogs and transferred to humans by drinking water, made it necessary for each family to treat its water supply.

Dispensing health information was an important part of the teacher's job. A snack consisting of pilot bread, juice, and a vitamin pill was given the children during the morning recess.

As in Gambell, tuberculosis had been a real problem. Many of the women interviewed had spent a year or two in Alaska Native Service hospitals recovering from the disease.

Women's employment. Employed women were as follows: two nurse's aides, one teacher's aide, one domestic, and a Bureau of Indian Affairs teacher.

The airport construction superintendent arranged for the crew's laundry to be done by local women. The wife of the president of the village council handled it, dividing the work among fifteen women who did a creditable job in their own homes using irons heated on the stove.

Orders from the construction crews for dolls and other handicrafts kept the women busy who were skilled at sewing. One woman had made twenty parka-clad dolls that summer. Slippers, balls, and toy seals were popular items.

It should be mentioned that women were busy all day with family chores---carrying water, cleaning game, cooking, sewing, housecleaning, and helping to care for the dogs. The women interviewed seemed reluctant to make positive statements or to show interest in an activity that would interfere with the established routine of a woman's life. They looked to their husbands for help in answering the questions. The wife of the council president evidently was a leader among the women and represented them well in contacts with outsiders. The women showed an interest in laundering, baking, nursing, and food handling.

GAMBELL

Educational facilities. A couple taught the eight grades in a Bureau of Indian Affairs school with help of a native teacher aide. Five of the six girls who were graduated the preceding year had gone away to high school.

A native man was in charge of the adult education program and was searching for ways to meet the needs of the villagers. It was interesting to note that the only woman enrolled in the Nome Vocational School in September, 1964, was a Gambell resident in her fifties who had had two years of schooling.

Health services. A doctor and a dentist, under contract with the Department of Health, visited Gambell occasionally. There was no nurse in the village. Routine medical care was given by a nurse's aide, a native man trained for the job. Serious cases were usually sent to Nome or Anchorage.

Women's employment. Employment for women was limited. There was some indication that women did not put a realistic value on their time; they sometimes worked as domestics at a low hourly rate, and they sold well-made men's parkas for as low as $60. Many of the women tanned skins for family garments.

One woman had become interested in baking and had gained a fine reputation for her products. There was some discussion as to the feasibility of establishing a small bakery. Another woman earned several hundred dollars a year from her black-and-white drawings. Some of them had been copyrighted and transferred to household articles which appeared to be selling well.

Women showed consideration for their husbands' opinions as they discussed plans for money-making activities. They looked at their husbands as if asking permission before answering questions and remarked that what they would do depended upon their husbands' attitudes. Some were shy and lacking in ideas for money-making activities for themselves. Upon suggestions from the interviewer, they indicated an interest in baking, laundry, and nursing.

The correlation between age and education for seven women interviewed was as follows:

AGE	YEARS OF SCHOOLING
57	2
50	0
48	4
37	4
37	6
30	7
20	8

A high value was placed on education, and adults showed that they felt that better jobs were available to those who could work with written words and numbers. Some remarked that their education had been limited because they had lived on another part of the island; others, that they had become sick and had had to quit school, or that their mother had died and they had left school to help the father rear younger children.

Several of the women had come over from Siberia as children. None of the married women interviewed indicated an interest in leaving the island permanently. There could have been a different feeling among the young, unmarried girls. Hughes, for instance, found that the inhabitants were interested in the stability and security of the white world and would be willing to leave the island in order to share in a world characterized by power, material abundance, skill, cleverness, health, cleanliness, long life, enjoyment, excitement, and individual freedom.[15]

Many housewives were caring for semi-invalid or bedridden, elderly relatives. Tuberculosis was a problem for all ages. According to Hughes, during the period of 1940 to 1954 there were forty-nine deaths from this disease, representing a rate of 1,067 per 100,000 as compared with the United States rate in 1954 of 10.2 per 100,000. Thirty-one per cent of the deaths fell in the eleven to nineteen-year-old group. Fifty-three per cent of the population, not counting stillbirths, died before reaching twenty years of age.[16]

Civil Aeronautics Administration buildings, no longer used by that agency, had served in the 1960's as an inn, a trading center, and headquarters for walrus and polar bear hunting. A trader made some effort to encourage native industry by guiding the local people in making salable items and finding commercial outlets for them.

A Bureau of Indian Affairs program called for shipping 500 to 1,000 reindeer to St. Lawrence Island to be cared for by islanders for use as domestic food and food for the numerous sled dogs. This was to be done late in the summer of 1964, but the project had been delayed until the following year because of transportation problems.[17]

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[15] Hughes, *op. cit.*, p. 345.

[16] *Ibid.*, p. 78.

[17] "Reindeer Shipment Plans Under Study", *Anchorage Times*, September 16, 1964.

Fur farming and hide tanning had been suggested for similar arctic villages, but research had indicated that this was technically feasible but economically unfeasible.

Lack of motivation, a tendency to rely upon the government, and the absence of a heritage of management experience were mentioned as impeding factors for this, as well as for the reindeer industry.[18]

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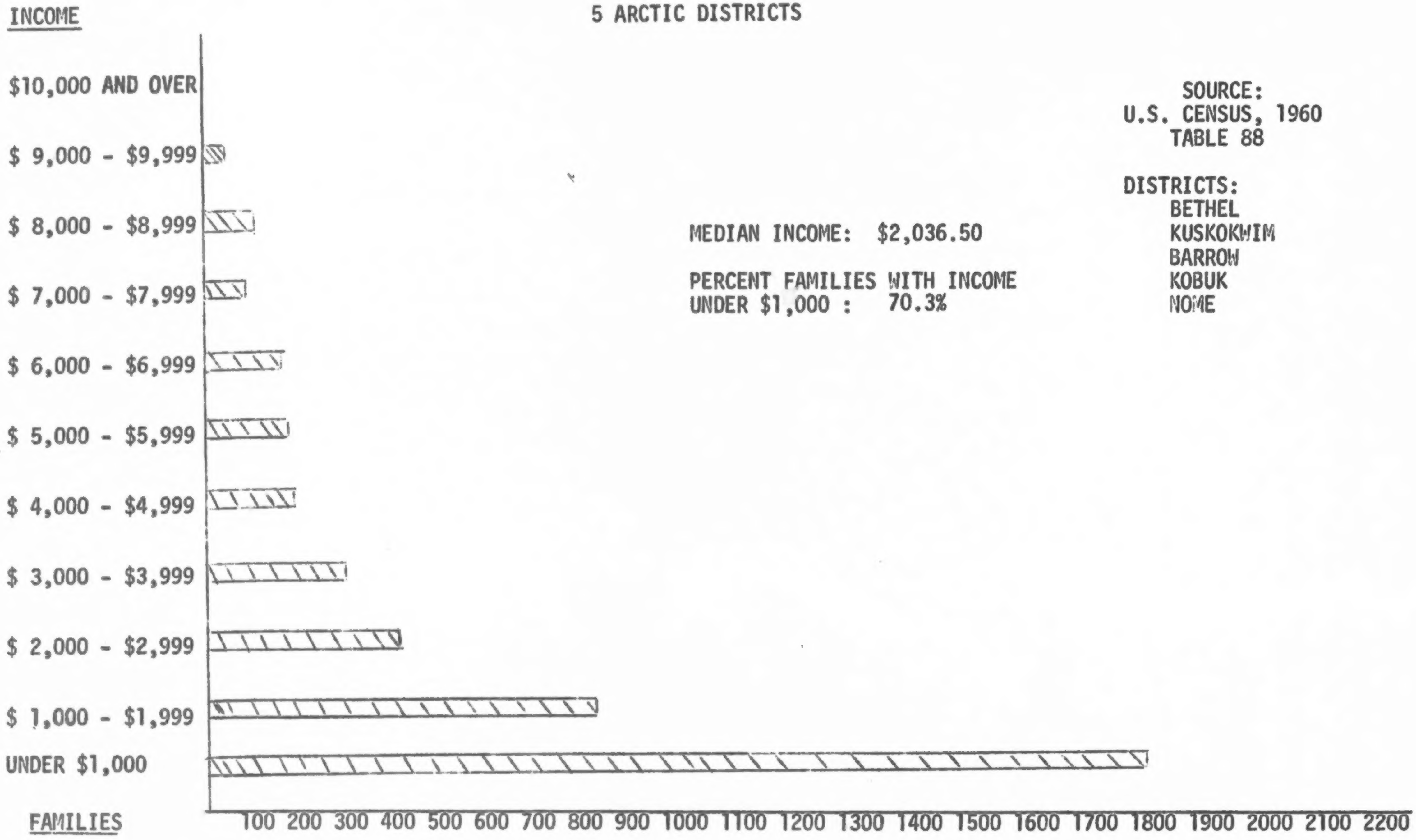
[18] Arthur D. Little, Inc., *op. cit.*, p 69.

FAMILY INCOME

5 ARCTIC DISTRICTS



MEDIAN INCOME: $2,036.50

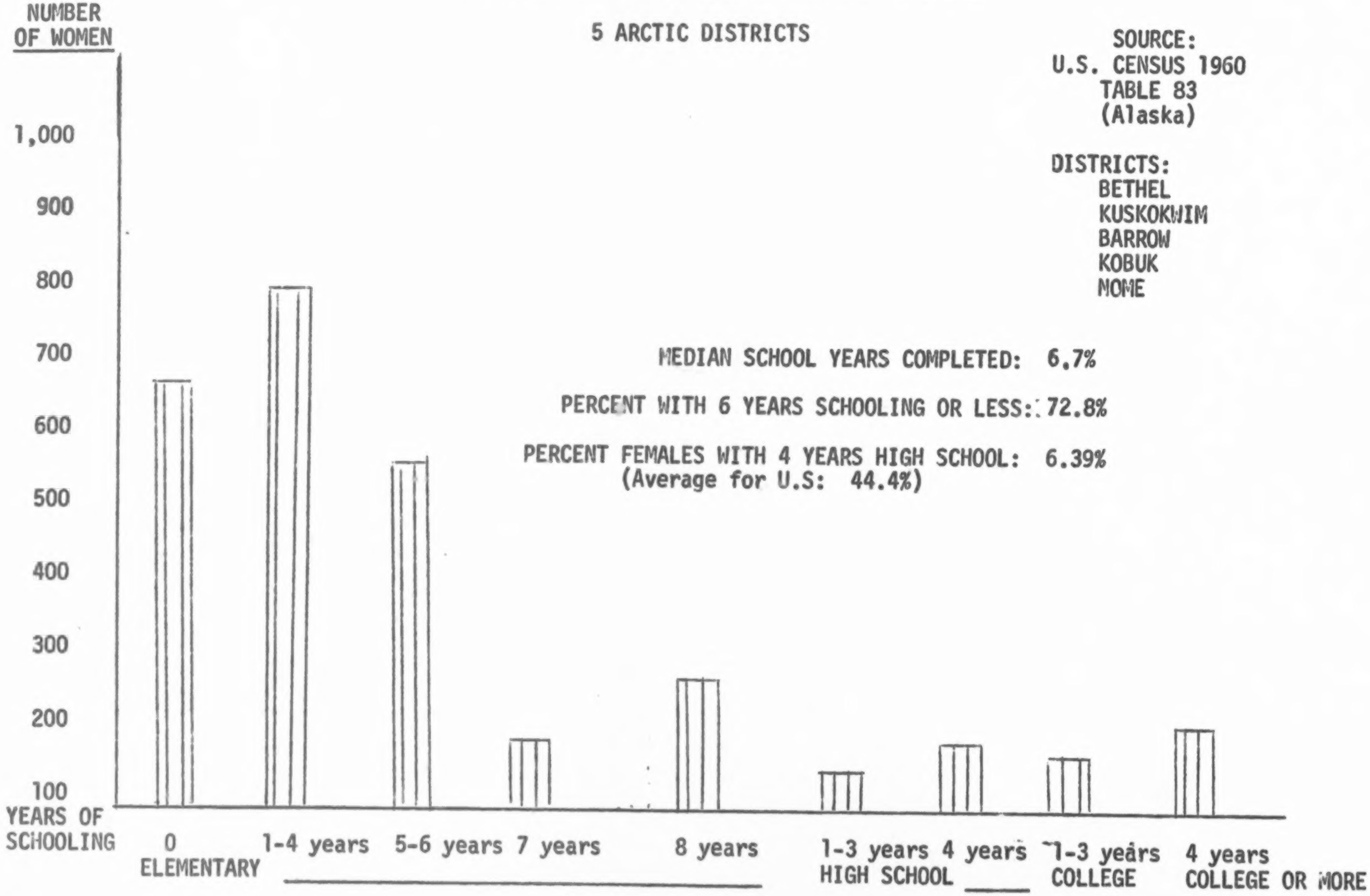
PERCENT FAMILIES WITH INCOME
UNDER $1,000 : 70.3%

SOURCE:
U.S. CENSUS, 1960
TABLE 88

DISTRICTS:
BETHEL
KUSKOKWIM
BARROW
KOBUK
NOME

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY FEMALES 25 YEARS AND OVER

5 ARCTIC DISTRICTS



SOURCE:
U.S. CENSUS 1960
TABLE 83
(Alaska)

DISTRICTS:
BETHEL
KUSKOKWIM
BARROW
KOBUK
NOME

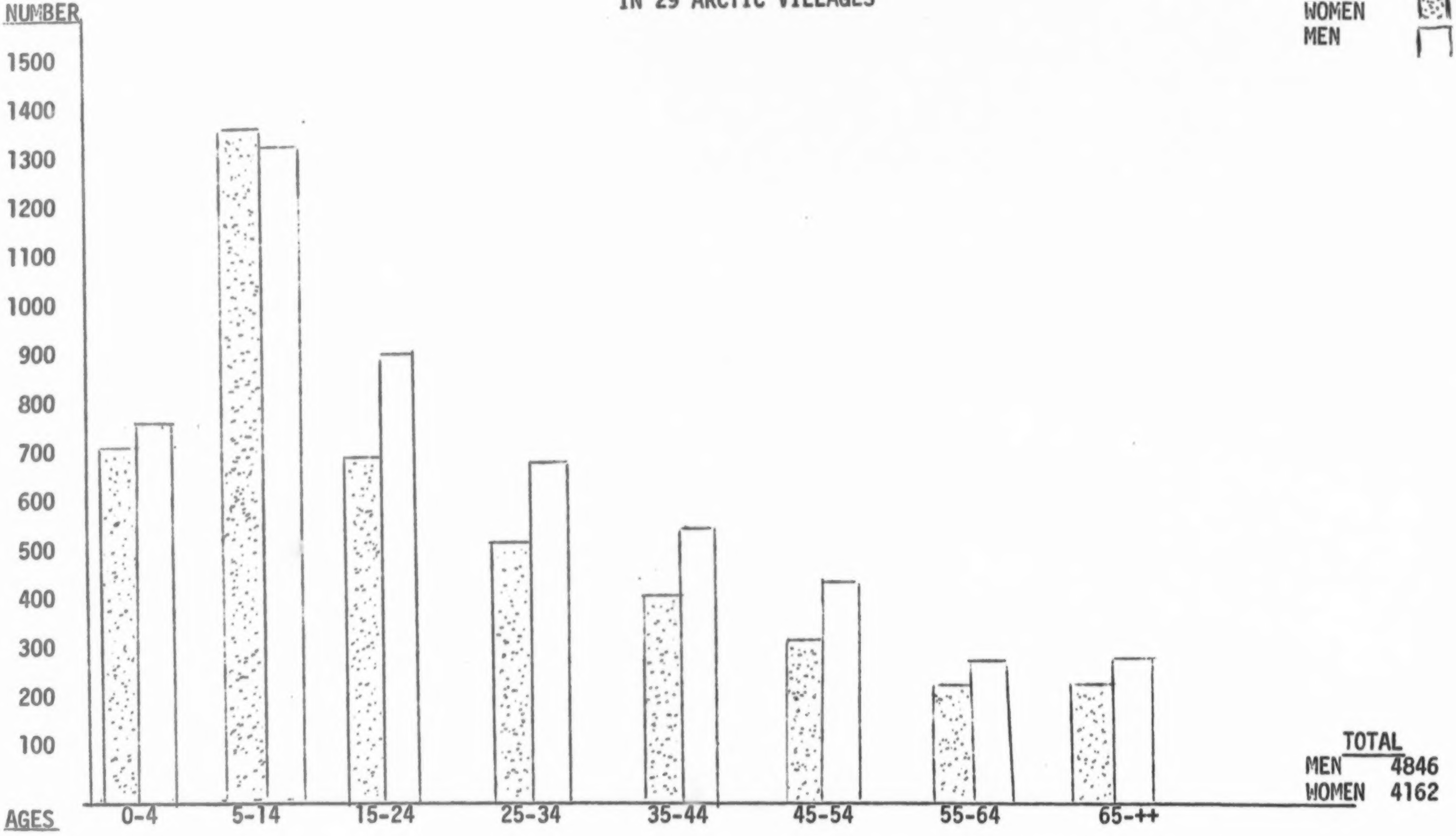
MEDIAN SCHOOL YEARS COMPLETED: 6.7%

PERCENT WITH 6 YEARS SCHOOLING OR LESS: 72.8%

PERCENT FEMALES WITH 4 YEARS HIGH SCHOOL: 6.39%
(Average for U.S: 44.4%)

AGES OF MEN AND WOMEN

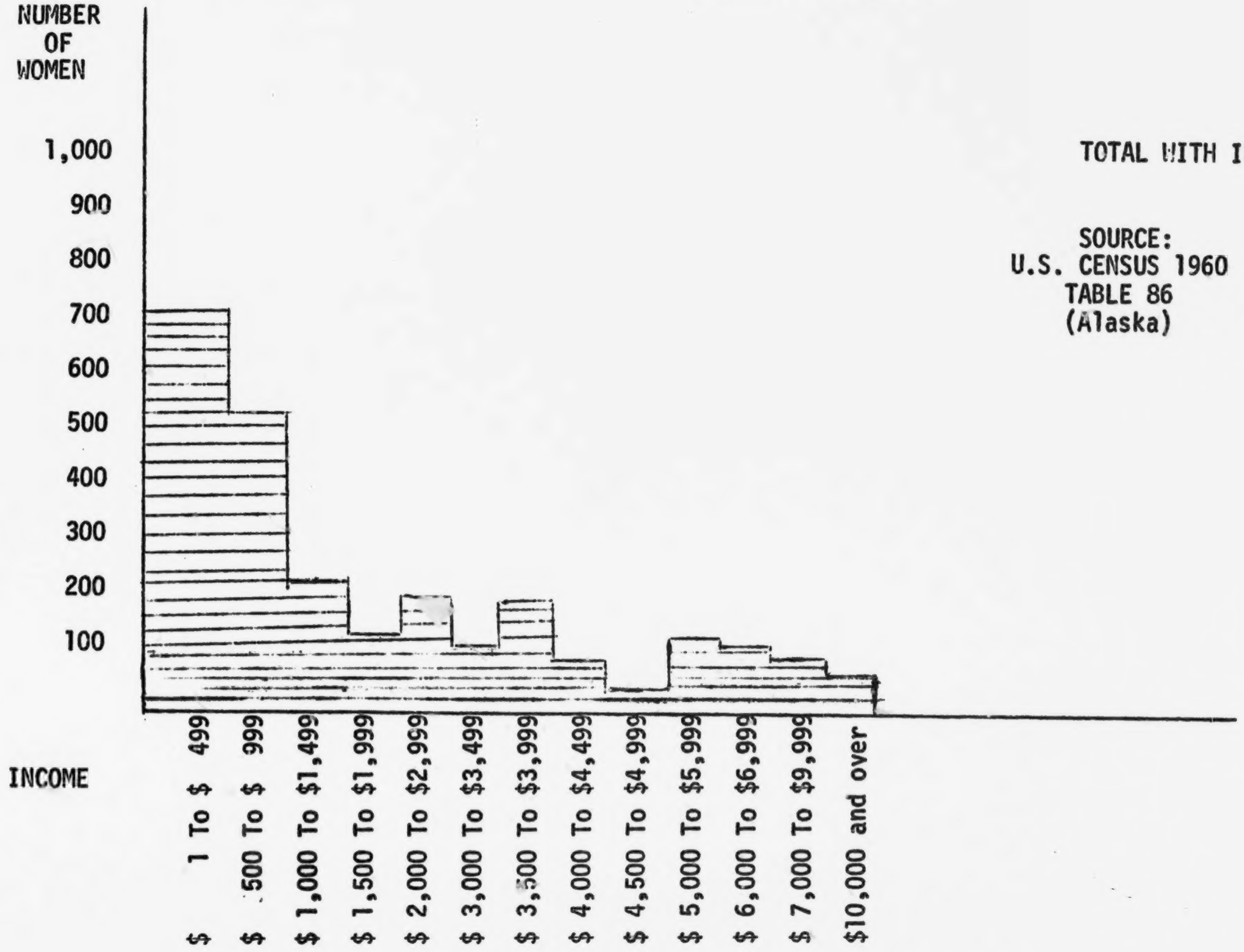
IN 29 ARCTIC VILLAGES



BASED UPON BIA POPULATIONS, NOME AREA, EX.A

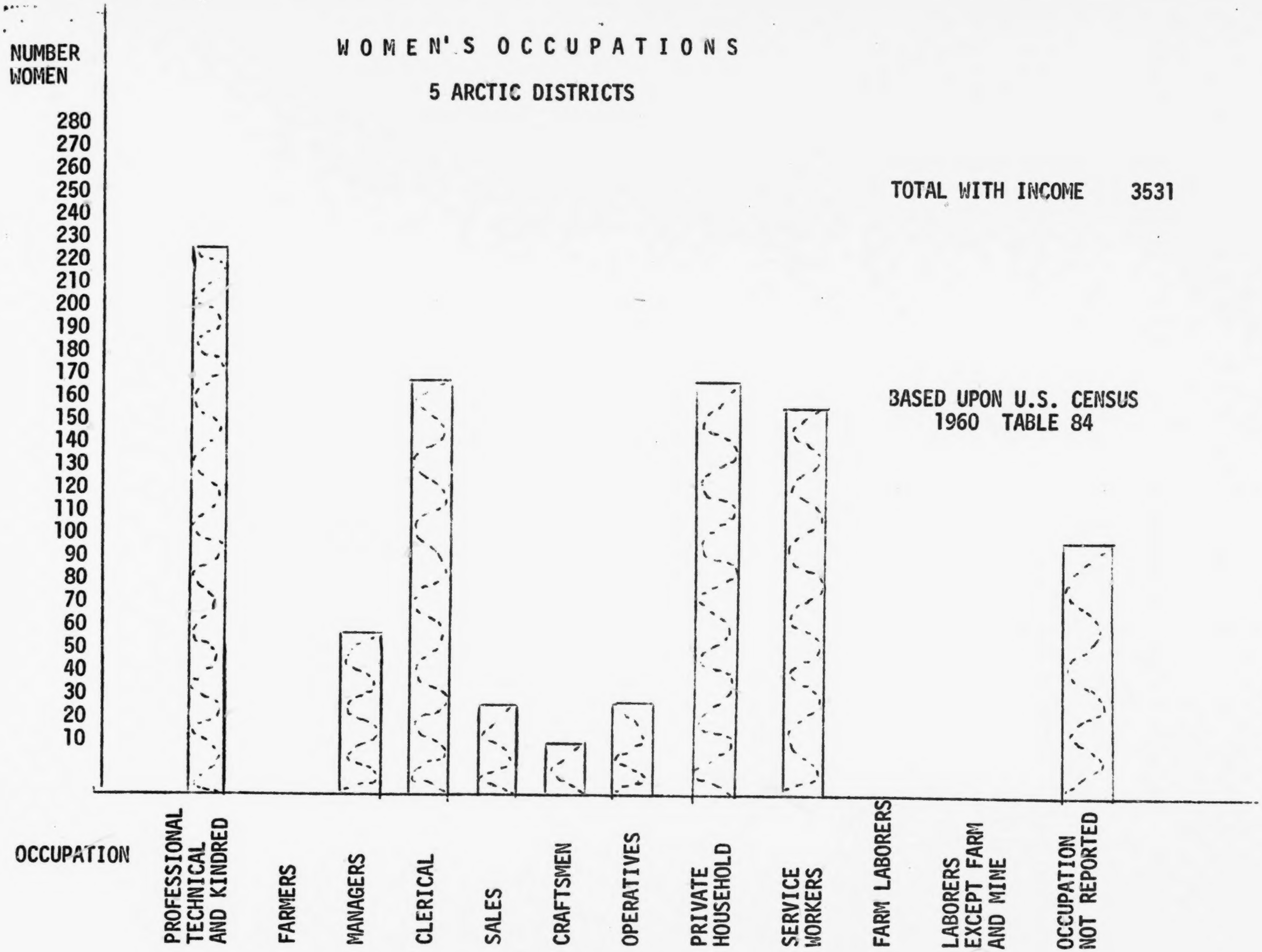
INCOME OF FEMALES

5 ARCTIC DISTRICTS



TOTAL WITH INCOME: 3531

SOURCE:
U.S. CENSUS 1960
TABLE 86
(Alaska)



WOMEN'S OCCUPATIONS

5 ARCTIC DISTRICTS

TOTAL WITH INCOME 3531

BASED UPON U.S. CENSUS
1960 TABLE 84

DILLINGHAM

Economy and geography. This fishing village at 59° 02' N., 158° 33' W., had 424 inhabitants in 1960 and was the largest town in the Bristol Bay area. Canneries were kept busy during the height of the salmon run; but many of the workers were hired "Outside" so that the village during the off season did not reflect the income that had been realized there during the summer. Off-shore and bottom fishing were discussed, but had not developed as an industry as they had in similar locations fished by the Japanese and Russians. When the salmon run was poor, the village economy suffered drastically. At one time, Dillingham was designated to receive an allocation of surplus food from the Federal government.

State and Federal activities provided most of the steady jobs. An Alaska Native Service hospital at Kanakanak (about seven miles from Dillingham), a Fish and Wildlife Office, and the public schools were the main governmental facilities.

Dillingham was "wet" and had several liquor stores and bars. The town had been recently incorporated and activities related to water supply and sewage disposal were providing jobs for men.

Educational facilities. A public high school and elementary school and two parochial schools were operating in 1964-1965. There were no day care facilities nor adult education classes being held at the time of the research.

Health services. The Alaska Native Service hospital at Kanakanak took care of the medical needs of the native population. For the others, there was a station for a public health nurse in Dillingham.

Employment for women. Canneries, the largest employers of women, hired for forty-five days with a guarantee of $864.44, $736.71, or $694.77 depending on job classification. No previous training was necessary for the operators, although frequently women would work up from a Class B, or low-skill job, to Class A.

Other Bristol Bay canneries hired more people than those in Dillingham, but fewer women. These were in places where the housing situation would have been complicated by the presence of women, an employer said. Some women were brought in from "Outside" for work in canneries or to serve as waitresses. A Dillingham fisherman said that it was very important to develop off-shore fishing to provide more year-around income. The costliness of gear and freezer ships appeared to deter development of bottom fishing.

Two hotels and several restaurants provided steady employment for several women. Most of them had worked at their jobs for less than three years. They ranged in age from eighteen to fifty. An employer mentioned undependability because of drinking or temperament as the largest employee problem.

Trained secretarial help was scarce. The city needed an experienced bookkeeper. Every employer who was asked about the need for a day care center replied that one was badly needed. The school hired a physically handicapped woman and several crippled women were hired in the cannery for labeling and marking cases. The Alaska Native Service hospital at nearby Kanakanak provided a source of employment for women in the area.

TYPICAL WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT IN DILLINGHAM, 1964

Cannery (Summer only)	
Canning and related	30
Food service	8
Laundry	1
Housekeeper	1
Public School	8
Fish and Wildlife	2
City Administration	2
Airline	2
Hotel and Restaurant	8
Retail Establishment	3

BETHEL

Economy and geography. Bethel, with 1,258 people, was the transportation center for the lower Kuskokwim and the Bering Sea coast from Hooper Bay to Eek, including Nunivak Island. It had an airstrip which accommodated bush aircraft and prop-jets. The river served as a base for float plane operations. It was possible to bring in large supplies by ship, tug, and barge. The reindeer and musk oxen range on nearby Nunivak Island affected some of the traffic and supplies going through Bethel.

Salmon fishing, particularly for kings, provided income and subsistence activities. Bethel supplied some laborers for canneries in the Bristol Bay area and others worked at the king salmon plant in town. Governmental activities---Federal Aviation Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska Native Service, State schools, and the United States Weather Bureau---accounted for most of the salaried income.

Industry was hampered by the shortage of a pure water supply and adequate methods for sewage disposal. Water sold for two and one-half cents or three and one-half cents per gallon, according to the amount bought at one time, which could amount to twelve and one-half cents or seventeen and one-half cents every time a toilet was flushed.

Educational facilities. The State had a school building for elementary and secondary students and a kindergarten program was offered.

For the outlying area, according to Bureau of Indian Affairs figures, there were 102 girls attending high school elsewhere, plus ten studying at Haskell, and two in art school "Outside". Twelve others were taking part in the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Employment Assistance Program

In the villages under the Bethel Bureau of Indian Affairs Education Office's jurisdiction were thirty-two elementary schools. These hired, in addition to the male teachers, forty-six women. Thirty-two other women worked in the school lunch program which was offered in each school.

One official pointed out the correlation between age and education. Women older than forty could be expected to have a second or third grade education; twenty to thirty years old, sixth to eighth grade; and eighteen to nineteen year olds, at least eighth. Census figures correlating age and education bear this out.

Health services. There was a doctor at the time of the survey, a woman who had previously been with the Alaska Native Service hospital. There was also a half-time public health nurse.

The Alaska Native Service hospital on the outskirts of town, provided health services for the native population in Bethel and up the Kuskokwim River. Staff doctors took turns in the field, going out for a week at a time and traveling by air and by dogsled for the shorter trips between villages.

Women's employment. Native girls hired by the stores and offices were those who had been trained in office work or had had other secondary schooling. Non-native women, many of whose husbands had government jobs in town, filled some of the positions. The need for well-trained secretarial help was frequently mentioned by employers. There were at least four unfilled secretarial positions in early September, 1964.

One general store hired six women; another, three. A restaurant-hotel employed six women; the Bureau of Indian Affairs office, twelve, all clerical.

Twenty women worked in the cannery during the summer. The State school hired thirteen women as teachers and two as office workers. One woman was working for an airline.

The largest single employer of women in the town was the Alaska Native Service hospital, which used them for the following jobs:

Registered nurses	10
Practical nurses	9
Nursing aides	11
Food service	5
Dietician	1
Director of nurses	1
Assistant director of nurses	1
Educational services	2
Laundry	2
Seamstress	1
Clerical	7
Housekeeping	4
Total	54

These women ranged in age from nineteen to fifty-eight years.

One employer remarked that undependability of the employee in reporting for work was his biggest problem with labor. Another said that a day care center was needed.

Only two employed physically handicapped women were brought to the writer's attention. One suffered a speech defect; the other, deafness. Tuberculosis, orthopedic problems, and accidental crippling accounted for the majority of the handicapped. Accidental crippling occurred more frequently among men than women.

One isolated village had an unusual amount of mental retardation. One official thought it was due to intermarriage. This was not checked.

ANIAK

Aniak was a village of 308 people in 1960, according to United States census figures. It was about eighty miles up river from Bethel. There was a Federal Aviation Agency station there and a small inn and restaurant on the airstrip's edge.

There was little in the way of employment for women. An inn had hired one or two, and occasionally some found jobs as domestics for the Federal Aviation people.

This village, as were many places along the river, was constantly threatened by spring and summer floods.

The economy was largely based on subsistence activities.

STONY RIVER

Economy and geography. In 1964 there were 114 people living at Stony River, located on a seven-mile-long island at the junction of the Stony and Kuskokwim Rivers above Bethel. There was an airstrip suitable for bush plane landings, a coffee shop, a trading post, a sawmill, and a small industry in manufacturing prefabricated cabins. Some of these buildings were shipped down river as far as Bethel.

Educational facilities. A two-room, State-operated school had an enrollment of twenty-seven students during 1964-1965.

Health services. A Public Health Service dentist lived in the village and provided dental care for the villagers of the lower Kuskokwim. Routine and non-professional health care and record-keeping were done by his wife. A training program had been started whereby the village councils paid the fare for one or two of their people to go to the hospital at Bethel for a six-week training course in health services. Their room and board were provided by the Public Health Service while they were learning.

Women's employment. The few available jobs in the village usually went to those with the education for record-keeping related to the job and with the self-discipline necessary to meet the schedule.

ESKIMO VILLAGES

Summary

Since the purchase of Alaska a century ago, the Eskimo people and their problems had been a subject of interest to American anthropologists, sociologists, physiologists, and economists. Their ancient villages had been excavated, their health problems studied; they had been weighed and measured, their basal metabolism had been tested, their food habits analyzed, their family life and interpersonal relationships observed, their psyche had been probed, and their mode of subsistence reported.

There appeared to be agreement on the fact that the Eskimo had demonstrated an almost perfect adaptation to his physical environment, shown by his ingenuity in utilizing available resources.

The cause of concern had been that of acculturation to a society suddenly thrust upon him. The influence of outsiders, particularly during and since World War II, was so disruptive to the old way of life, which was primarily a nomadic. hunting existence, that some seemingly insurmountable problems arose.

Although the Eskimo's activities became more dollar-directed, survival in the harsh environment still demanded that he carry on a cycle of activities to fit the seasons.

The criticism by newcomers to the Arctic of his undependability as a worker were perhaps valid from the employer's point of view. It had to be recognized, though, that a people long-accustomed to depending upon nature to provide for their very subsistence could justifiably be reluctant to make a complete change in their way of life and to come to depend upon the fluctuating economy of the newcomers to provide for their survival on the Arctic coastal plains.

The most successful employers appeared to be those who could and would allow the native men and women to fit their hunting and fishing activities into the employer's schedule, with an understanding as to limitations. These were usually the businessmen who offered strong, dependable, and effective leadership in their community.

Human behavior, it was recognized, was not easily understood, and it would have been presumptuous for this researcher to suggest that any program of education could provide all the answers to the individual's personal problems related to employment.

Poor money management, personality and family maladjustments, and the misuse of alcohol, whether the town was legally "wet" or "dry", were serious problems and were the concern of many agencies.

At the conclusion of the work, during which the villages were surveyed and people interviewed in their homes and at work, the following recommendations were made relating to the place of vocational education in training women for job opportunities.

ESKIMO VILLAGES

Conclusions:

1. The Eskimo race in Alaska is increasing and more young Eskimos are remaining in and returning to the villages than are moving away permanently.
2. The basic economy of the Eskimo is based upon subsistence activities and the women play an important part in these activities.
3. The role of the woman in the Eskimo village indicates that for many training for part-time or piece work would be more practical than for full-time employment.
4. The Bureau of Indian Affairs can and does provide vocational training for young women who want to work at jobs other than those available in the villages.
5. Less than two per cent of the female Eskimo population regularly receive Aid to Dependent Children or Old Age Assistance.
6. The development of the native industries (fur farming, tanning, and reindeer herding) is technically feasible, but economically unfeasible.
7. Eskimo women trained in health education could earn money as nurse's aides and at the same time contribute substantially to the welfare of their community.
8. Wives of government workers who are stationed in villages are holding office jobs that could be done by trained Eskimo women.
9. Development of adequate water and sewage systems by the proper authorities could add to women's employment opportunities by making it possible to install laundromats, beauty parlors, coffee

shops, bakeries, and other industries using large supplies of water and requiring good waste disposal systems.

10. There is a need for training women to produce high quality, standardized fur products for which there is already a consistent market.
11. Eskimo men are not averse to employment for their women as long as it follows accepted patterns for women's activities.
12. Only the women in their twenties or younger can be expected to have an eighth grade education.
13. Eskimo women in the smaller villages do not place a high money value on their work and may be underpaid for goods and services.

ESKIMO VILLAGES

Recommendations:

1. The Division of Vocational Education, Department of Education, should provide job training for women.
2. The programs should be chosen with due consideration for other vocational training in effect, such as those of the Manpower Development and Training Act or the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
3. Vocational counseling should be given in the seventh and eighth grades.
4. Pilot training programs should be introduced in the fields of health education, food handling, hotel services, and clothing construction using highly qualified instructors who are familiar with Eskimo culture.
5. Programs offered should, where possible, be in areas that would allow the individuals to remain in their own villages if they so desire.
6. Training programs should be based on surveys of the village, taking into consideration the psychology, sociology, and previous training of the inhabitants, as well as present and projected businesses and industries that would affect women's work opportunities.
7. Local inhabitants who qualify should be given the first opportunity for jobs.
8. Each training program should include indoctrination to instill high standards, pride in workmanship, and a professional attitude toward the job.

9. Women should be helped to realize the worth of their work and the value of their time.
10. Money management courses should be offered for all adult women in the community.
11. Certificates should be issued at the completion of definite occupational training programs upon evidence that the people have developed the skills and understanding necessary to qualify as trained employees for that occupation.
12. Every village that provides a substantial amount of employment for women should have a State-supervised day care center for the children of the working mothers, if a private day care arrangement with trained help and reasonable prices is not available.
13. There should be closer coordination among governmental agencies serving the needs of the Eskimos.
14. Eskimos should be helped to maintain a pride of their own culture.

CHAPTER IV

FAIRBANKS

Economy and geography. Fairbanks, on the Chena River in the Tanana Valley, 150 miles south of the Arctic Circle, at 147° 44' W., 64° 50' N., was the second largest city in Alaska. Towns in the election district and their populations were as follows in 1960:

Aurora	293
College	1,755
Dot Lake	56
Ester	81
Fairbanks	13,311
Graehl-Hamilton Acres	2,162
Island	659
Lemeta-Johnston	1,227
Northway	196
South Bjerremark	231
Tanacross	102
Tetlin	122
Tok	129

Although Fairbanks had extremely low temperatures in the winter, the long, warm summer days made it possible to grow some commercial crops such as potatoes, cabbage, and grain. Dairying had become well established. The discovery of gold in 1902 gave Fairbanks its start, but played a minimal role in the community's economy after 1920.

The Alaska Railroad connected Fairbanks with Anchorage, 365 miles to the south. A road from Valdez made trucking possible from that seaport to the Interior. The Alaskan Highway was an important link to the main body of the United States through Canada. As in most Alaskan cities, air travel increased greatly after World War II. Bush flying to the remote Interior and Arctic Coast accounted for much of Fairbanks' airlines business.

An Army base, Fort Wainwright, on the outskirts of town, and Eielson Air Force Base and Fort Greely to the south, affected Fairbanks trade.

Indians from the interior valleys and Eskimos from the coast were drawn to the metropolitan center for employment, but the move was not always successful economically nor culturally.

Strong industries in December, 1964, were government, transportation, communication, and utilities. At that time, the unemployment rate was 6.9 per cent.[1] In mid-August, 1964, it was 3.7 per cent.[2]

Educational facilities. The North Star Borough School District had a 1,623-student high school with eighty-two teachers; six elementary schools, including kindergartens; and a junior high school. There was a program for special education for the handicapped. The high school offered vocational education courses and there were some work-study classes. A Catholic high school had 110 students and a faculty of eleven. Their grade school had nine teachers.

The district offered adult evening classes. Students were at least eighteen years old and were not enrolled in a regular, full-time day school pre-college program. The offerings related to domestic skills were described as follows:

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[1] Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions. March, 1965.

[2] Ibid., January, 1965.

> Foods: Designed to teach preparation of foods--appetizers, canapes, hors d'oeuvres.
>
> Flower arranging: How to arrange flowers according to need--decoration type of flower.
>
> Interior design: A basic course in principles of interior decoration based upon color and fabric selection, room planning.
>
> Millinery: Basic millinery--new hats for the Easter season.
>
> Knitting: Beginning and advanced instruction.
>
> Sewing I and II: Fabrics, patterns, cutting and sewing; designed to teach clothing construction; alterations, buttonholes, and pleating.

These were offered for different lengths of time, ranging from five weeks to eight weeks, usually meeting for two hours two days a week. The fees were from seven and one-half dollars for the shorter courses to twenty dollars for the longer ones.

The University of Alaska was experimenting, through its extension service, with a three-month course in homemaking to train women to qualify as professional homemakers to manage households with children in the absence of the mother. A professional home economist was teaching the course, using guest lecturers to teach nutrition, home management, credit, child care, and sewing. In April, 1965, sixteen women were enrolled. Some were new to Alaska, others had recently moved to Fairbanks from northern villages.

The University of Alaska had opened as a Land-Grant college in 1922 and was designated as the University of Alaska in 1935. It covered 2,250 acres and had an enrollment in 1964-1965 of 1,416 on-campus students (during the first semester).[3] It was approved by the Federal Office of Vocational

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[3] University of Alaska Catalog 1965-1966, College, Alaska. p. 28.

Education for teacher training in Vocational Home Economics.

The minimum requirements for a bachelor of science in home economics were 130 credits. The 1964-1965 University catalog stated that the course in home economics was designed primarily to train the student for marriage and family life. It also stated that by proper selection of courses, graduates were enabled to find employment in related vocations. Home economics courses were: meal management, college orientation, related art, textiles, advanced clothing, family health, home management, clothing construction and selection, marriage and family life, advanced foods, nutrition, child development, house planning and furnishing, and home management residence.[4]

The summer session for 1965 offered no home economics courses on campus or in Fairbanks. An evening class program for 1964-1965 listed a marriage and family life class that could be taken on the main campus, at Fort Wainwright or in other parts of the State where there were extension courses.

Health services. A seventy-bed hospital, used by fourteen doctors, was operated by the Sisters of Providence.

Employment for women. During the month of April, 1965, these requests were made for women employees:[5]

Contract Construction	4	Service Industry, Except Private	13
Public Utilities	6	Private Household	31
Wholesale and Retail Trade	18	Federal Government	3
Finance and Insurance	9	State Government	2

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[4] *University of Alaska Catalog 1964-1965*, College, Alaska. p. 69.

[5] Figures supplied from State Employment Office, Fairbanks, Alaska, April, 1965.

Businesses in Fairbanks related to domestic skills and services were:

Alterationists	2	Furniture Dealers	3
Beauty Parlors	17	Grocers	12
Catering	1	Interior Decorators	1
Children's Clothing Stores	4	Laundries	1
Women's Clothing Stores	3	Self-service Laundries	6
Cosmetic Shops	2	Motels	5
Department Stores	2	Nurseries, Licensed	1
Drapery Shop	1	Restaurants	17
Drugstores	5	Sewing Center	1

In 1959 one-fourth of the working women were employed in eating and drinking places, personal service, or hospital work. This fact, in addition to that of the demand for private household workers as indicated by the requests to the employment office, showed that there were a significant number of openings for skilled domestics and service workers. Salaries were comparable to those of food service workers or retail trade clerks, but the low status associated with the job apparently caused many women to avoid this kind of work. Some people involved in placement said that employers needed training in employee relationships to make the jobs more desirable.

CHAPTER V

FORT YUKON

Economy and geography. This village of some 650 people on the Yukon River, eight miles north of the Arctic Circle and 125 miles northeast of Fairbanks had been established as a trading center for furs by the Hudson's Bay Company, and later was the site for an Episcopalian mission and hospital. The activities of these agencies gave the isolated village a permanency that continued long after the fur-bearing animals were depleted and the Federal government assumed responsibility for medical treatment of the natives.

A White Alice site helped the economy, but not as much as the villagers had hoped. The site employees' most obvious contribution to village income was the purchase of native beadwork. The science and technology involved in maintaining the site contrasted sharply with the simple village life.

The people of Fort Yukon were plagued by many problems: an expensive supply of pure water, limited sewage disposal facilities, high prices for basic commodities, threat of flood and erosion, distant source of medical care, absence of work opportunities, low educational level of adults, and the emotional disintegration and social problems related to poverty, i.e. drinking, poor personal management, and trouble with law enforcement agencies. Many families were crowded in small, sod-roofed log dwellings. A great deal of time was involved in subsistence activities---hauling wood, carrying water, fishing for personal use in unproductive waters.

Work opportunities were related to the school, airlines, trading outlets, utilities, and lodge. Trapping and fur selling still provided money income.

Businesses included a coffee shop, a small movie house, a lodge and restaurant, two stores, a family-run bakery, an oil dealer, and a supplier for electricity.

Fairbanks offered opportunities to earn money and to "get ahead", but going there to work was sometimes an expensive undertaking. For a man to rent a room and eat out, or to rent an apartment and take his wife and children there, to join a union, to buy special work clothes or tools, and to enter into any of the social life offered by the city sometimes made it economically unfeasible for the people of Fort Yukon to go there to work.

The village was nominally "dry", but everyone interviewed mentioned drinking as being a real problem. The ready access to liquor in Fairbanks may have affected the natives' ability to adapt successfully to urban life and have caused many of the villagers to return home disillusioned.

The women and girls who might have found work in offices or households in the larger towns had the disadvantage of being virtually untrained for the work available. The fifty-one-student high school, housed in a clean, modern attractive building offered no home economics, office, or shop classes. The students were taught music, English, social studies, mathematics, and science.

It was not part of the cultural pattern for mothers to teach their daughters the domestic skills. Living conditions were so simple that there was very little housekeeping that could be taught which might help the girls find jobs as domestics in homes with modern appliances and interiors.

Leather used for skin sewing and beadwork was purchased from local traders or "Outside" suppliers. A complaint was made that commercial skins were too expensive, but that the hunters did not bother to save hides anymore.[1]

Most of the homes had electricity for lights. Although there were complaints about the price, it was a popular addition to the home.

Family money problems were easily analyzed. There just wasn't enough income. Of the 179 families having an income in 1959, 126 had less than $3,000 a year. Any beyond that amount necessary for bare survival was often spent on materials that brought immediate gratification: sweets, baked goods, liquor, and coffee.

It was not customary for women to sew for their children, although there were several households with sewing machines. Local stores and catalog houses provided sources for ready-made garments. The main requirement was that the clothing should be warm and that it should be cheap. Launderability was not a determining factor in purchases since there was no dry cleaning establishment and laundry facilities were limited or absent in most homes.

Women's work, as in many Alaskan villages, was monotonous and difficult because of the unhandy method of getting water and fuel and the lack of sanitary facilities, as well as crowded housing conditions. Since the men were more often unemployed than employed, they spent a great deal of time at home, thus adding to the burden of the housewife's work.

Considering all the factors that limited the money-making ability of the villagers, it appeared that any program of training for wage-earning occupations would be an improvement. Such a program would have to be realistically based upon the culture, history, and future plans of the community and should take care of the needs of the in-school youth as well as those who had terminated.

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[1] "Fort Yukon Woman Changes Moose Hide to Work of Art", Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, April 21, 1965.

A survey made in the spring of 1965 by a Long-Range Planning Committee of the City Council showed that the women were interested in training for child care, housekeeping, secretarial work, nursing, sewing, cooking (particularly baking), and laundry work.

Hospitalization for the seriously ill was provided at the Alaska Native Service facility in Tanana located many miles away. A public health nurse was usually stationed at Fort Yukon, but the people complained about not having a hospital.

A Community Action Program was being organized. Operation Headstart for disadvantaged children was underway for the summer of 1965.

The possibility of Rampart Dam's being built should be considered in long-range plans for the village.

POPULATION OF ELECTION DISTRICT

UPPER YUKON

District 20, Upper Yukon	1,619
Fort Yukon	701
Beaver	101
Stevens Village	102
Rampart	49

FAMILY INCOME IN 1959

UPPER YUKON

All Families	179
Under $1,000	35
$1,000 to $1,999	52
$2,000 to $2,999	39
$3,000 to $3,999	8
$4,000 to $4,999	--
$5,000 to $5,999	8
$6,000 to $6,999	8
$7,000 to $7,999	17
$8,000 to $8,999	--
$9,000 to $9,999	--
$10,000 and over	12
Median Income: Families	--
Families and Unrelated Individuals	$1,617

INCOME OF PERSONS IN 1959

UPPER YUKON

Total		638
Total with Income		438
$1 to $499 or less		101
$500 to $999		128
$1,000 to $1,499		90
$1,500 to $1,999		36
$2,000 to $2,499		14
$2,500 to $2,999		9
$3,000 to $3,499		--
$3,500 to $3,999		8
$4,000 to $4,499		--
$4,500 to $4,999		9
$5,000 to $5,999		9
$6,000 and over		34
Median Income:	Both Sexes	$ 961
	Male	$1,125
	Female	--

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

UPPER YUKON

Female, 14 Years Old and Over	344
Labor Force	102
Employed	55
Unemployed	47
Not in Labor Force	242
Inmate of Institution	--
Enrolled in School	34
Other, Under 65 Years Old	178
With Own Children Under 6	109
Married, Husband Present	97
Other, 65 Years Old and Over	30

LAST OCCUPATION OF UNEMPLOYED

UPPER YUKON

Total Experienced Unemployed	101
Professional, Technical, and Manual Workers	18
Clerical and Sales Workers	4
Craftsmen, Operatives, and Kindred Workers	22
Private Household Workers	18
Service Workers, Except Private Household	22
Farm Laborers and Foremen	--
Laborers, Except Farm and Mine	12
Occupation Not Reported	5

OCCUPATION OF EMPLOYED

UPPER YUKON

	Male	Female
	158	25
Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers	27	--
Clerical and Kindred Workers	--	4
Sales Workers	10	5
Craftsmen, Foremen, and Kindred Workers	13	--
Operatives and Kindred Workers	53	8
Service Workers, Except Private Household	18	4
Laborers, Except Farm and Mine	22	4
Occupation Not Reported	15	--

CHAPTER VI

McGRATH

Economy and geography. McGrath, at 62° 58' N., 155° 38' W., with a population of 241, was about halfway between Bethel and Fairbanks by air and nearly 350 miles northwest of Anchorage. It had prospered as a trading and freighting center during the peak of gold mining activity in the Folger and Ophir districts and was still the most important trading center in that remote area.

A Federal Aviation Agency station, a post office, and a State elementary school provided most of the salaried income. Other year-around work was provided by two airlines offices, a cafe, two stores, and three bars. Transportation (there were two freight lines on the river), food service, lodging, general merchandising, trapping, and woodcutting were the main businesses.

School and Federal Aviation Agency construction were providing employment for men during the summer of 1964. The inn was full and the restaurant was doing a good business. There was no evidence of plans for further industry.

McGrath had several older residents who had stayed on after mining activities had diminished. Many of the homes were well built in the old Scandinavian style, and vegetable gardens were common.

Educational facilities. A new elementary school was being built in 1964. Three teachers handled the eight grades. Beyond elementary, some students went to Copper Center Catholic High School, others to Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, and still others made arrangements to attend secondary schools in other towns. Of the four eighth grade graduates during the preceding year, all had gone on to high school.

Health services. A public health nurse was stationed there. Natives were eligible for medical care at the Alaska Native Service hospital in Anchorage.

Women's employment. Other than one store, owned by an "Outside" company, all the stores, bars, the eating place, and inn were owner operated. The post office employed two women and an airline hired one. There were two women teachers.

One family-run establishment employed a cleaning woman, a waitress, and a cook. The mother and daughter both indicated an interest in education for job training. Neither had finished high school and both expressed dissatisfaction with their present work.

Another woman, born in the area, served as welfare agent, assisted in health activities, and worked at cleaning and odd jobs. Her daughter, who had attended secondary school away, was assistant postmistress. Another daughter had taken the practical nursing program in Anchorage and was working and studying in Sitka.

A Federal Aviation Agency station was on one end of town and the families there sometimes hired women for domestic help. Residents remarked that the Federal Aviation Agency wives as a rule did not become involved in village affairs.

CHAPTER VII

TYONEK

This fishing village with 180 residents on Cook Inlet, fifty miles west of Anchorage, had a community hall, a cooperative store, and a fifty-one-pupil Bureau of Indian Affairs school. Transportation to towns across the Inlet was by private boat or chartered plane. A graveled airstrip for small planes was within walking distance of the village. The economy had always been dependent upon the fishing season, but recent oil exploration had brought business to the community and discoveries on Indian land had led to a settlement of several million dollars to the natives for their oil rights. A council was administering the income so that all the inhabitants could benefit. Long-term investments in real estate in Anchorage were included in their plans. Sixty-two family dwellings were under construction during the summer of 1965, providing employment for some of the men.

The school was to be transferred to a borough, and three classrooms were being built in 1965, eliminating the necessity for operating shifts. One village leader felt that the lack of facilities had been responsible for some students not being accepted in high school. Six students attended Mt. Edgecumbe in 1964-1965.

Changes in the economic situation in Tyonek promised to be interesting, since these people who had been living a partially subsistent life on marginal income had suddenly achieved some affluence. That there would be social and emotional effects appeared obvious. How they would adapt to the changes would make an interesting study.

CHAPTER VIII

ANCHORAGE

Economy and geography. The city, with 44,327 people, was the center of trade and transportation for the Anchorage election district, population 93,902, as well as much of interior and southwestern Alaska. Located at 61° 14' N. and 149° 54' W., on the eastern side of Cook Inlet between Turnagain and Knik Arms, the town covered some 40,000 acres from the bluffs of the Inlet to the foothills of the 8,000-foot Chugach Range. Two military reservations, Elmendorf Air Force Base to the northeast and Fort Richardson on the east, were contiguous to the greater Anchorage area.

Yearly average rainfall was slightly over fourteen inches and the annual snowfall sixty inches. Most of the snow fell from November through January and there was seldom more than sixteen inches on the ground at any time.

Maximum weather conditions were: record high, eighty-six degrees Fahrenheit; record low, minus thirty-eight degrees Fahrenheit; maximum monthly snow fall, forty-eight and five-tenths inches. The greatest amount of rain was expected between the beginning of July and the end of September. The growing season averaged one hundred days, with the longest days having a maximum daylight of nineteen and one-half hours. The shortest day provided five hours and twenty-eight minutes of daylight.[1]

Railroading was responsible for the birth of the city in 1915 and remained by far the most important business until the coming of World War II when defense activities provided jobs for thousands. The discovery of gas and oil in the 1960's brought more business to this largest Alaskan city. Still, governmental activities provided over two and one-half times as much employment in Anchorage as any other one industry in August, 1964.[2]

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[1] United States Weather Bureau.

During the 1960's, Anchorage earned a reputation as "the air crossroads of the world". Three domestic airlines scheduled flights to the other states; three others served the Alaskan interior and western coast; four carriers took passengers to Europe or the Orient; and four others used the airport for refueling, maintenance, and crew changes.

The total in-out air passengers for 1963 was 306,693, and the total through passengers 171,763. In and out freight came to 43,057,484 pounds.[3] Housing, feeding, and other services for the crews and tourists provided business for the community. A 450-room hotel was completed in 1964, and another with 150 rooms was opened in the spring of 1965. Some thirty other hotels and motels were operating at the time of the survey.

During the summer of 1962, 25,000 tourists passed through Anchorage on business or pleasure. Of that number, 4,800-5,000 came on planned tours.[4] Big game hunts, ski facilities, night clubs, and guided bus tours as well as sport fishing provided entertainment for the tourists and employment for the citizenry. Businesses in the city offered services comparable to those in any town of the same size in other sections of the

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[2] Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions. September, 1964. p. 8.

[3] Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Report, Anchorage International Airport. October, 1964.

[4] Ibid., p. 27.

United States.

Anchorage was primarily a working person's town with a notable absence of a leisure class. Of the total number of employable persons fourteen years old and over, 45 per cent were employed. There were 17,183 women over fourteen years of age not in the labor force and 12,631 were working at the time of the 1960 census.[5]

"Mobile" was the word that could best describe the Anchorage employees. The men who came in to build the railroad were followed by the engineers and construction crews for military bases, highways, and airports and more recently by oil drillers and geologists. In 1960, 49.9 per cent of the persons living in southcentral Alaska had lived in another state in 1955.[6]

Service industries provided many work opportunities. Of 259 placements made by the Anchorage Employment Service during a period in 1962, one-fourth were in service: 29 in hospitals, doctors' offices, and other service establishments and 27 in private households as housekeepers, maids, or yardmen. Eighteen per cent found jobs in wholesale and retail trade and 14 per cent of the total were in service industry firms. Fifty-eight of these persons were placed in government jobs.[7]

Educational facilities. Under the administration of the Greater Anchorage Area Borough School Board, public schools started the 1964-1965 year with an enrollment of more than 18,900 students between the first and twelfth grades.[8] Of this number, the Chugiak and Eagle River schools accounted for 1,080 and the Girdwood Elementary School for forty-five. There were twenty elementary schools, three junior high schools, and three high schools in the Anchorage district with a total certificated staff in 1964 of 820.[9] Forty per cent of the girls continued schooling after high school graduation.

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[5] George W. Rogers and Richard A. Cooley, *Alaska's Population and Economy: Regional Growth, Development, and Future Outlook*. Report to Division of State Planning, Office of the Governor. March, 1962. p. 78.

[6] *Ibid*., p. 47.

[7] *Anchorage Job Seekers Survey*, Employment Security Division, Alaska Department of Labor, 1964. pp. 13-14.

The non-certificated staff in 1964 numbered 323. The school lunch program throughout the borough employed eighty-two women who served as cooks, bakers, managers, or office workers.

One supervising principal was in charge of special services which included the following faculty:[10]

Speech-Hearing Therapists	5
ANS Hospital Teachers	4
Teachers of Brain Damaged	5
Teachers of Mentally Retarded	12
Teachers of Physically Handicapped	1
Hearing Teachers	3
Visiting Teachers	2
School Nurses	14

Advanced study was available at the Anchorage Community College, the University of Alaska military base programs, and Alaska Methodist University.

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[8] Facts Digest, 1964-1965, Greater Anchorage Area Borough School District. p. 7.

[9] Ibid., p. 10.

[10] Ibid., p. 8.

The Anchorage Community College of the University of Alaska was operated in cooperation with the Anchorage Borough School District. It was accredited as a part of the State University and offered the first two years of college academic work. On behalf of the School District, it offered terminal courses in general education, vocational-technical education, and continuing education for the adults of all ages in the greater Anchorage area.[11]

The enrollment in October, 1964, was 1,555. The college was approved by the Veteran's Administration under Public Law 550 for veterans desiring to attend college. Tuition assistance was available for members of the Armed Services under Public Law 413. Counseling services were offered and tests regarding ability, aptitude, personality, interest, and achievement were administered for a small fee to members of the student body requesting them. Apprenticeship classes were sponsored in cooperation with the Joint Apprenticeship Committees.

In June of 1964, a grant of $890,000 was given the Anchorage Community College for a multi-occupational project under Public Law 88-214 of the Manpower Development Training Act of 1963. Programs offered during 1964-1965 were based upon surveys made by the State Department of Labor and included: clerk-steno, clerk-typist, practical nursing, drafting, waitress, retail sales, airline reservations, food service, and health occupations.

Four private nursery-kindergartens and a Catholic Junior-Senior High School, grades seven to ten, were operating in 1964.

Alaska Methodist University, a four-year liberal arts college, had 349 students enrolled in full-time classes in the fall of 1964 and sixty-six students in the night program. Expansion plans included a four-year nursing education program to make it possible for individuals to obtain all their training in Alaska. Classes in speedwriting, shorthand, secretarial training, business machines, real estate, and card punch instruction were offered by a private business college. Three accredited beauty colleges were attended by students from outlying towns as well as Anchorage.

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[11] Anchorage Community College, Catalog and Announcements, 1964-1965.

Health services. There were two church-owned hospitals, two private nursing homes, and an Alaska Native Service Hospital. Providence Hospital (Catholic) had 150 beds; Presbyterian, 45; and the Alaska Native Service Hospital, 395.

The State had offices for public health, mental health, and a child study center. In addition, it operated a 225-bed Psychiatric Institution.

Women's employment. The high cost of living and a desire to improve the family's standard of living appeared to be the main incentives for women to work. In spite of improvement in shipping, increased competition among retail businesses, and greater efficiency in marketing, the cost of living in Anchorage was substantially higher than in the nearest "Outside" city, Seattle. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the indexes of intercity differences in the cost of equivalent goods and services, with the cost in Seattle equaling one hundred, were as follows in October, 1963:[12]

Food	123	Apparel	111
Housing	135	Other Goods and Services	115
Rental Housing	172		

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[12] United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Of the 8,053 women with income in 1959, 2,192 earned less than $1,000 indicating that more than one-fourth of the working women in the Anchorage area were employed part time. Most of the women applying for jobs during the 1962 Employment Service survey had had high school educations or more. Those from twenty-one to thirty-four were the best educated. Of 413 applicants, 316 had twelve years' education.[13]

A survey had been made by the State employment Service for the purpose of acquiring information pertinent to setting up occupational courses for up to one thousand trainees who would come from Anchorage and other south-central Alaskan communities hardest hit by the quake as well as some from other parts of Alaska. The study indicated that there was a need for more trained waitresses, seamstresses, cooks, and other kitchen help such as salad makers and pantry girls. Counter girls were being trained in a small apprenticeship program. The Restaurant Employees' Union had sponsored a waitresses' course and a spokesman said that they might do so again.

Domestic help, particularly for child care or substitute mother, was in continual demand. Day care for children of working mothers was offered by an accredited nursery school for $80 per month. Classified advertisements in the two Anchorage papers on the same day in November, 1964, showed a need for:*

Private Household Workers	22	Waitress	1
Seamstress	1	Counter Saleswoman	1
Presser	1	Floral Designer	1

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[13] Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Division, Anchorage Job Seekers Survey, July-October, 1962. p. 56.

*The Anchorage Times had notices for sixteen domestics; the Anchorage Daily News for 6. There may have been some overlapping.

According to a release by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, the wage rates for jobs ordinarily held by women as of August 1, 1963, were as follows:

TYPE OF JOB	GOVERNMENT	ALL OTHER INDUSTRY
Medical Technician	$475-577 Mo.	$350-500 Mo.
Nurse, General Duty	470-545 Mo.	400-450
Nurse, Office		375-425
Teacher, Grade & High School	558-705	550-750
Bank Teller		300-350
Bookkeeper	445-510	400-535
Cashier	3.02-3.28 Hr.	350-440 Mo.
Clerk-Typist	300-445 Mo.	350-450
Dental Assistant	370-428	350-420
Grocery Checker	1.71-3.19 Hr.	3.25-3.57 Hr.
Key Punch Operator	398-428 Mo.	400-450 Mo.
Receptionist	415-445	350-425
Salesperson, Clothing	1.62-3.28 Hr.	1.97-2.94 Hr.
Secretary	410-545	400-500 Mo.
Stenographer	406-480	350-455
Telephone Operator	390-420	20.00-23.25 shift
Stewardess		365-425
Child Monitor		1.00 Hr. or $25-$35 week
Day Worker		2.00 Hr.
Housekeeper		5.00 to 7.00 day or 150-220 Mo.

The foregoing figures were secured from the Alaska State Employment Service with the following note:

> These wage scales are largely based on starting salaries. They are based on a 40-hour week and do not include overtime rates, zone rates, supervisory or foreman rates, or any fringe benefits such as board and lodging. The Federal government rates include 25 per cent tax-free cost-of-living allowance on the government schedules.[14]

The telephone directory of June, 1965, listed privately-owned establishments who had work related to domestic skills:

TYPE OF BUSINESS	NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS
Restaurants	68
Hotels and Motels	36
Women's Wearing Apparel, Retail	15
Cleaners and Laundromats	14
Furniture Upholsterers and Refinishers	10
Janitorial Services	11
Draperies	3
Sewing Centers	3
Interior Decorators	4
Dressmaking and Tailoring	4
Hospitals	3
Nurseries for Children	3
Bakeries	4
Diaper Service	1
Knitting	2
Confectioners	1
Department Stores	7
Home Furnishings	6

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[14] Going Wage Rates of Various Employers, August 1, 1963: Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Paper.

One hospital hired the following in November, 1964:

Registered Nurses	65
Licensed Practical Nurses	12
Hospital Aides	61
Clerical	16
Secretaries	1
Administrators	1
Food Service	20
Technicians	12
Librarian	1
Housekeepers	7
Laundry Workers	8

In addition, there were seven Sisters: two in administration, three in nursing service, one in food service, and one in the pharmacy. It was remarked by an administrator that there was a high rate of turnover among the paid workers.

Alaska Psychiatric Institute hired many women. Jobs related to domestic skills were:

Cooks	6
Waitresses	10 (on-the-job training)
Kitchen Helper	4 (on-the-job training)
Housekeeping Aide II	2
Housekeeping Aide I	5 (on-the-job training)
Laundry Foreman	1
Laundry Worker II (Washman)	1
Laundry Worker II (Supervised) ironing and filling linen orders)	1

Laundry Worker I	6 (on-the-job training)
Seamstress	1
Planned additions:	
Kitchen Helper	2
Waitress	7

The following comments were made:

"Turnover is greatest among waitresses, nursing aides, and Nurse I."

"The shortage of practical nurses is particularly acute, and there is a continuous high percentage of vacancies in these positions. At present, [November 10, 1964] there are thirteen vacancies in fifty-seven budgeted positions, a not unusual circumstance."

JOB APPLICANTS BY EDUCATION AND AGE
FEMALE

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

JULY TO OCTOBER, 1962

		Age Groups					
Years of Education Completed	Total Number of Applicants	20 and Under	21 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and Over
TOTAL	563	132	213	102	77	36	3
No Education	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
1-7 Years	32	0	6	7	8	10	1
8 Years Only	44	2	7	11	17	6	1
9-11 Years	124	43	34	17	22	7	1
12 Years Only	212	54	89	44	16	9	0
13-15 Years	107	32	45	18	9	3	0
16 Years Only	28	1	23	1	2	1	0
Over 16 Years	15	0	9	4	2	0	0

Alaska State Employment Service, Employment Security Division, Department of Labor

CHAPTER IX

MATANUSKA VALLEY

Palmer and Wasilla

Economy and geography. The word "Matanuska" became associated with homesteading and farming in Alaska when the Federal government set up an agricultural colony there in the 1930's. It should be noted that there were some well-established communities, Knik and Wasilla, before the colonization. Palmer, at the upper end of Knik Arm on the Glenn Highway less than fifty miles northeast of Anchorage, was the trade center for the area in 1965. Paved roads led to Fairbanks and to Tok Junction from where they continued as the Alaska Highway. A railroad spur ran to Palmer; Wasilla was on the main line. An airstrip in Palmer was used by charter planes and private pilots. A small gravel airfield was located near Wasilla.

Dairy farming and other agricultural pursuits had been practiced since the Valley was first settled, but there had been many obstacles that prevented them from becoming as successful as many of the settlers had envisioned. Short seasons limited varieties of crops that could be grown to maturity; development costs ranged from sixty dollars to five hundred dollars an acre; regulations limiting the size of homesteads made some of them too small to operate as an economic unit; freight rates which made it possible to import milk and vegetables from "Outside" as cheaply as they could be produced in Alaska and high costs for farm labor made competition with stateside products difficult.

Since World War II, the population of the area had outgrown employment opportunities and many family heads had to find work in Anchorage or on military bases. Johnson and Stanton mentioned in *Matanuska Valley Memoir* that after nearly twenty years, forty-nine couples of the 185 colonist families still lived in the Valley; seventy-seven couples had left Alaska; and that of the 130 men and women still living in Alaska in 1953, their occupations were as follows:

Housewife	47
Farmer	25
Laborer	11
Carpenter	10
Retail Clerk	5
Store Manager	4
Office Worker	3
Heavy Equipment Operator	3
Miner	2
Domestic	2
Miscellaneous*	13
Occupations Unknown	5

*One each of blacksmith, cafe operator, contractor, postmaster, bus driver, bricklayer, trapper, trucker, sawmill operator, plumber, telephone operator, bartender, and retired.[1]

Since 1960, Matanuska Valley had produced about 70 per cent of the total value of agricultural products in Alaska. There were 176 farms with 39,715 acres, of which 10,369 acres were harvested cropland and 1,221 cropland pasture.[2]

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[1] Hugh A. Johnson and Keith L. Stanton, *Matanuska Valley Memoir*. Palmer, Alaska: University of Alaska, 1955. pp. 92-93.

[2] *Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions*, July, 1964. p. 2.

There were many State and Federal offices in Palmer. A partial list follows:

- Agriculture Experiment Station
- United States Geological Survey
- United States Conservation Service
- Farmers Home Administration
- Alaska Communication System
- State Division of Agriculture
- Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- State Division of Roads

A paved road connected Palmer with Wasilla, twelve miles to the west, where some one hundred people lived in the village or on nearby farms. Summer tourists, sawmills, and dairy farming contributed to the economy, although most of the 'farmers' had to find work elsewhere.

Educational facilities. Three hundred and ten students attended Palmer High School and 135 went to Wasilla. Both offered vocational home economics. There were two elementary schools in Palmer and one in Wasilla. The Palmer Community College offered courses as interests warranted. During the spring of 1965, the following were scheduled: education (audio-visual), intermediate typing, advanced typing, shorthand, mathematics, psychology, education (principles and practices of guidance), ground school, drivers' education, and civil defense monitoring.

Twenty-seven of the thirty-three girls in the 1964 graduating class of Palmer High School continued their studies; two from Wasilla went on to college.

Health services. The public health nurse at Palmer covered the Valley. A community hospital for twenty-five patients was staffed and equipped for general medical care. Proximity to Anchorage made that town's hospitals and doctors readily available.

Women's employment. About fifteen women, including the school teachers, found work in Wasilla. The greatest need for trained help was said to be in food and hotel service and clerical work. Businesses in Palmer hiring women were:

Hospital	1
Hotel and Coffee Shops	2
Child Care Center	1
Department Stores	2
Seamstress	1
Washeteria and Cleaner	1
Dry Cleaner	1
Florist Shop	1
Beauty Parlors	3
Dress Shops	2

Many of these were small owner-operated establishments.

Palmer had a private child care center, but there was no public facility in the area.

WASILLA

Economy and geography. In 1916, railroad workers cleared a site for a camp between Lake Lucile and Wasilla Lake at 61° 35' N., 149° 26' W. In 1965, there were over a hundred permanent residents in or near the town and several hundred more who did some trading there. Although many lived on "farms", most heads of families earned a living at some other work. Coal mining, school teaching, retail sales, railroad work, and sawmills provided local employment. Summer tourist trade contributed to the economy. Improved roads had made Palmer and Anchorage more accessible so that many people drive there to trade or work.

Educational facilities. There were a grade school and a high school that offered vocational home economics. No adult education classes were being taught there in 1964-1965, but some residents took courses at the Palmer Community College. Of the seven girls who were graduated from high school in 1964, two went on to college.

Health services. The Palmer public health nurse served Wasilla, and tha community hospital in that town was available to all Valley residents.

Women's employment. The schools hired nine women teachers and two secretaries. About fifteen other women worked in or near the town. Occasionally there were openings for cooks and waitresses and clerical help.

WILLOW

Economy and geography. This community near the Susitna River, some thirty miles from Wasilla by railroad and highway, had formerly been an important freighting post for the miners in the Talkeetna Mountains. The railbelt in that area had long been a favorite with sport fishermen and had enjoyed more recent popularity for winter sports, particularly dog mushing. Trading posts, service stations, bars, general stores, cafes, and other tourist facilities had been built along the road and in the village.

Some of the homesteaders drove to Anchorage to work daily, while others stayed there during the week and returned home weekends. Requests were made in 1965 for a commuter train service to Anchorage for the benefit of those who were employed there. Some interviewees remarked that boredom and loneliness were an important problem with the women who sometimes had to live on the land to meet homestead requirements while the husband worked elsewhere. One suggested that a strong program of adult education during the winter could help to alleviate emotional problems as well as to provide training for wage-earning skills.

Willow was a favorite spot for military families to spend weekend vacations with their 'campers'. It was difficult to determine how much they contributed to the economy, since this arrangement often precluded purchases in the vacation area.

Besides the usual roadside businesses mentioned earlier, there were a washeteria, a hatchery, and one enterprising person was growing pigeons commercially. There was a good business in the sale of lots as the population pushed out from the urban areas of Anchorage, and good roads made summer homes more attractive in these outlying areas.

Educational facilities. There were eighty-two pupils in the Willow elementary school. High school students went to Wasilla, a round trip of over fifty miles daily for some of them.

Women's employment. Work opportunities were very limited. Most of the small businesses were family operated. There were a few openings in motel work and food service. Construction camps sometimes used women cooks during the summer.

TALKEETNA

Economy and geography. Railroading, road construction, charter plane service, tourist trade, mining exploration, and some sawmill work were the main businesses in Talkeetna, a village of about 150 adults on the Alaska Railroad 125 miles north of Anchorage. The trade area was made up principally of three or four hotels and motels, two stores and three bars serving homesteaders on both sides of the Susitna River and those scattered along the gravel road and railway from Willow.

Summer brought some overnight tourists from Anchorage and some Fairbanks people traveling by rail or plane stopped there. Hunters, fishers, and mountain climbers used the facilities of the community. Mining had ceased to be of great importance.

Educational facilities. There were twenty-five students in the high school and fifty-seven in the grade school, a part of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District. There were no adult education programs.

Health services. A part-time public health nurse was assigned to the community from Palmer. There were no hospital facilities and no doctor.

Women's employment. Ten or twelve women worked the year around. Much of the work was by owner-operators. Construction camps used food service workers during the building season. A need for an automatic laundry service was mentioned by several women.

CHAPTER X

KENAI PENINSULA AND KODIAK

Seward

Economy and geography. In 1965, Seward residents estimated the town's population to be 2,300. The 1960 census figures for Election District 11 were:

Seward	1,891
Cooper Landing	88
Hope	44
Moose Pass	136

Seward was a seaport at 60° 06' N., 149° 27' W., on Resurrection Bay off the Gulf of Alaska.

The people of this community were searching for ways to replace earthquake damage and to develop new industry. The town's port facilities had been wiped out with $1,000,000 damage to docks and warehouses.[1] The highway, bridges, and railroad between Seward and Anchorage had not been completely rehabilitated in 1965. Longshoring and fishing, the main businesses before the disaster, had given way to government work and construction which employed an estimated 700 in 1965. Many longshoremen and unskilled laborers were unemployed, or had part-time work which averaged $3,000 yearly. Most of the unemployed were in the thirty-five to fifty-five year range. Transportation was expected to regain its position as the largest source for employment.[2] A Corps of Engineers project and Forest Service activities partially accounted for the large number of government workers.

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[1] Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions. May, 1964.

The Employment Service was actively engaged in community affairs and was interested in the development of new industry. A citizens' committee was working with the City Council to find ways to increase business opportunities.

Educational facilities. There were a kindergarten, two elementary schools, and one high school. The latter had an enrollment of 186 in 1965. The enrollment in other area elementary schools was as follows: Hope, 9; Moose Pass, 59; Cooper Landing, 26. There were no local programs for training beyond high school and no vocational education in the secondary school. A few young people were taking Manpower Development and Training courses in Anchorage. A school officer indicated that 60 per cent of the seventeen girl graduates the previous year had continued schooling.

Health services. One of the two hospitals, owned by a church, could care for sixteen patients, specializing in the care of tuberculars. The other, a 30-bed general hospital, was owned by the city of Seward and provided employment for nineteen women. There was some desire expressed in the community to have it serve as a "half-way" house for convalescents.

Women's employment. Of the approximate one hundred regular jobs for women, many involved the use of domestic knowledge and skills. These were:

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[2] Report of Local Study Group on Mental Health in Seward. January 11, 1964.

School lunch	3
Hospital, non-professional	10
Children's home	4
Private housekeepers	4
Hotels	10
Bakery	4
Restaurants	14
Cannery (seasonal)	50

There were openings for an experienced drug clerk and one or two beauty operators at the time the survey was made.

Several persons mentioned that almost any kind of job training would be beneficial for girls who do not go on to college.

There were an estimated ninety full-time and twenty part-time working mothers between Seward and Cooper Landing. One-third to one-half of the labor force was female in January, 1964. It is interesting to note that there were forty-eight private household workers in 1959. No doubt this was because many of the working mothers hired full-time child care.

INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED FEMALES

SEWARD

Female	369
Manufacturing	59
Machinery	--
Transportation and Equipment	--
Other Durable Goods	3
Food and Kindred Products	52
Textile Mill Products	--
Apparel and Other Fabricated Textile Products	4
Transportation, Communication, and Other Public Utilities	15
Wholesale Trade	4
Food and Dairy Products Store	12
Eating and Drinking Places	39
Other Retail Trade	34
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	4
Personal Services	60
Entertainment and Recreation	4
Hospitals	32
Educational Services: Government	19
Private	--
Other Professional and Related Services	35
Public Administration	20
Industry Not Reported	32

EDUCATION

SEWARD

Female, 25 years old and over		704
No School Years Completed		4
Elementary:	1 to 4 years	12
	5 and 6 years	40
	7 years	24
	8 years	86
High School:	1 to 3 years	147
	4 years	234
College:	1 to 3 years	98
	4 years	59
Median School Years Completed		12.2

AGES OF PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE

SEWARD

Female:	14 to 17 Years Old	48
	18 to 24 Years Old	35
	25 to 34 Years Old	72
	35 to 44 Years Old	114
	45 to 64 Years Old	130
	65 Years Old and Over	14
Married Women in Labor Force, Husband Present		252
Women in Labor Force with Own Children Under Six Husband Present		71
Married, Husband Present		59

OCCUPATION

SEWARD

Female, Employed	369
Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers	23
Managers, Officers, and Proprietors, Except Farm	12
Clerical and Kindred Workers	69
Sales Workers	23
Operatives and Kindred Workers	59
Private Household Workers	48
Service Workers, Except Private Household	95
Occupation Not Reported	40

FAMILY INCOME IN 1959

SEWARD

All Families	687
Under $1,000	8
$1,000 to $1,999	20
$2,000 to $2,999	24
$3,000 to $3,999	40
$4,000 to $4,999	53
$5,000 to $5,999	50
$6,000 to $6,999	66
$7,000 to $7,999	62
$8,000 to $8,999	41
$9,000 to $9,999	70
$10,000 and Over	253
Median Income: Families	$8,500

INCOME OF PERSONS

SEWARD

Female: Total	866
Total with Income	581
$1 to $499 or Less	186
$500 to $999	103
$1,000 to $1,499	72
$1,500 to $1,999	28
$2,000 to $2,499	46
$2,500 to $2,999	24
$3,000 to $3,499	20
$3,500 to $3,999	8
$4,000 to $4,499	24
$4,500 to $4,999	36
$5,000 to $5,999	14
$6,000 to $6,999	12
$7,000 to $9,999	4
$10,000 and Over	4
Median Income:	$1,010

In 1959, there were 1,558 persons who worked. Seven hundred and eight of them worked less than forty weeks during the year.

KENAI

Economy and geography. This town was on the west shore of the Kenai Peninsula, on Cook Inlet, seventy air miles and some 160 miles by road south of Anchorage. Fishing and fish canning and service industries were the most important business activities. Kenai businessmen were searching for ways to improve the town's economy. Small Business Administration financing had been used for projects there and in Soldotna. A fish processing plant that could hire fifteen to twenty-five women and a business involving motel, cocktail lounge, and restaurant that could hire six or more were being planned. A $350,000 hospital and a $340,200, thirty-unit motel were approved by the agency for Soldotna, near Kenai.[1]

Educational facilities. An elementary school, a junior high school, a high school with an enrollment of 316, and evening courses from the University of Alaska provided education for area residents.

Health services. There was a clinic in town which did not have a doctor at the time the survey was made. A public health nurse covered the peninsula between Homer and Seward jurisdiction.

Employment for women. Most of the businesses were husband-wife operated. Women who had been trained elsewhere held most of the jobs requiring skill. The canneries, which hired local women, operated only during the salmon runs. The schools hired twenty-two teachers, five office workers, and five for food service. The bank used six women whom they trained; the laundromats, three; another nine to twelve worked in restaurants. Some of the latter were also owners. Three women worked for the city.

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[1] Anchorage Daily Times, July 27, 1965.

HOMER

Economy and geography. The 1,247 people that made up the Homer trade area lived along the Kachemak Bay at 59° 39' N., 151° 33' W., on Cook Inlet on the southeastern side of the Kenai Peninsula. The open, grassy countryside and the relatively high temperatures made commercial livestock growing possible. A long spit made a quiet harbor which was used by numerous fishing boats. Docks and other harbor facilities were being replaced after earthquake damage. Fishing and tourist trade were the main businesses. A ferry from Kodiak stopped there twice a week. The town was available by highway from Anchorage, and there was frequent air service. Residents were looking for ways to increase tourist trade. Some said that an improved ferry schedule allowing more time for stop-overs would help.

Educational facilities. The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District high school in Homer had 141 students, the grade school, eighty-four. The Extension Service of the University of Alaska offered adult classes through the home demonstration agent's office in Homer. The agent had covered the peninsula from Seward to Afognak Island and Old Harbor during the summer of 1964 teaching classes in low-cost meal planning, repairing and salvaging of furniture, and planning for repair and replacement of homes.

Five of the eight girls who were graduated from Homer High School in 1964 continued their training---three in business school and two in college. One class in home economics was being taught in the high school. It was not a popular subject with the parents, a school administrator said.

Health services. Homer had a doctor and a public health nurse. A health clinic was open for scheduled public services.

Employment for women. Most of the employment for women was found in schools, canneries, State offices, the Homer Electrical Association, banks, and small businesses with a husband and wife operation. There appeared to be enough women to fill all available jobs. Some women earned money picking berries for a well-established business which processed local products. Others knitted sweaters for sale; the local magistrate was a woman. The local schools hired thirteen teachers, one and one-half secretaries, and three school lunch workers. Their ages were from twenty-three to fifty-five.

Some restaurant owners expressed a wish that there were more trained food service workers. Cabin crafts were popular with many women, but the market for their products was limited and sales slow. A person who had worked in this area for four years said that there were some real pockets of poverty in some of the village areas and it would be very worthwhile for the women to be able to supplement the family income.

Some of the married women in Homer had been trained for skilled work that was not available there. For example, a woman who had worked for ten years as an instructor in data processing and other business machine techniques was unable to use her training in Homer because of the small size of the businesses.

A forty-four year old woman had come down from the Arctic years before, married, raised a family, and found steady work in a cannery. She said that she would like to have become a nurse. Her lack of formal education limited her to unskilled jobs. Many of the married women in the area were formerly nurses, so that there were many more available than there were openings.

KODIAK

Economy and geography. Kodiak was a well-established fishing town on the eastern side of Kodiak Island in the Gulf of Alaska at 57° 47' N., 152° 24' W., with an adjoining Naval Base which served as Alaskan headquarters for the United States Navy. Fishing had been the main business in Kodiak since long before the purchase of Alaska by the United States. The principal seafood had been salmon until the development of crab processing plants. There were three kinds of crab of economic importance: king, dungeness, and tanner. Scallops, halibut, shrimp, and herring were available in commercial quantities.

At the time of the survey, Kodiak was busy with reconstruction after the seismic wave of March 27, 1964. Agents from the Small Business Administration, Urban Renewal, and the Bureau of Fisheries were assisting in planning. Night clubs, restaurants, and a shopping center were scheduled for the city.

Educational facilities. Church and public elementary schools, a 340-student high school serving town and Navy Base children, University of Alaska extension courses offered on base but open to Kodiak residents, and evening courses at the high school provided education for the people of Kodiak. Office training was popular in the extension and evening classes.

Of the twenty-eight girls who were graduated from high school in 1963, nineteen went on for further training. An agent with Public Health and Welfare estimated that about one-fourth of the girls from villages near Kodiak went to school beyond the eighth grade, and of that number about one-third finished.

Health services. Medical facilities for the island consisted of an eighteen-bed hospital administered by Catholic sisters, and a public health center with a full-time nurse. Physically handicapped women and girls on public health records were: two crippled from accidents on a job, one mentally retarded, one mentally affected, one cardiac patient, one with defective vision, and four congenital heart cases.

Women's employment. Forty to forty-five women on the island received Aid to Dependent Children. In the town there were nine, with one receiving Old Age Assistance, and three on general relief. None of the mothers receiving ADC had an education beyond the ninth grade and several had less. Five of the nine had had from one to five children outside of marriage. One mother of five had never been married. Poor money management and drinking were problems. Many had a strong sense of motherhood and were reluctant to go to work until their children were several years old, according to a social worker.

The largest employers of women were the canneries. Many operated all year long, providing regular employment in processing for nearly 75 women. Other women were hired for marketing the seafood.

Motels, hotels, restaurants, and canneries provided work opportunities for the under-educated women. An observation of local restaurants showed that there was an obvious need for upgrading the standards of those in food service. State and Federal agencies, service industries, small businesses, the hospital, and schools provided most of the employment for women who were not cannery workers. There were two jobs open for office managers. The practice of hiring the wives of military personnel for State and private businesses indicated that there were not enough trained local women to fill job requirements. A ruling in effect on the base prohibited the hiring of domestic helpers, although wives of Navy and Coast Guard personnel held some of the more important administrative jobs off base.

In mid-September, 1964, the Employment Service office had openings for one skilled and thirteen unskilled females. Since the salaries in the fish processing plants were higher than the going rate for waitresses, many preferred the former work.

The Kodiak school system, including the outlying elementary schools, hired forty-five women teachers, one nurse, two clerks, and three and one-half cafeteria workers. One female employee had a vision handicap.

CHAPTER XI

SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA

An understanding of the economy and sociology of the Tlingit Indians was pertinent to a study of Southeastern Alaska. Indian villages were scattered from Ketchikan to Katalla. Each village was part of the complicated social structure characteristic of the Tlingits. Before the invasion of outsiders they had reached a high level of culture, second to the Aztecs and Incas, though agriculture was not a part of their lives. Their crafts included the making of wooden bowls and other carvings of bone, horn, or wood as well as ornamented baskets made of spruce root and grass fibers.[1]

The current status of Indian crafts was recently reviewed in a report to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which pointed out the factors that should be considered in developing native arts for commercial purposes.[2] Fishing was the basic source of livelihood in Tlingit villages, and the economy of the people was primarily dependent upon the yearly runs of salmon.

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[1] The Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts of Alaska. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. Juneau, Alaska, April 1963.

[2] Alaska Native Arts and Crafts, Potential for Expansion. Final Report to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, University of Alaska, July, 1964, pp. 65-69.

KETCHIKAN

Economy and geography. Ketchikan, with 6,483 people in 1960, was the fourth largest and southernmost city in Alaska. The Alaska Business and Economic Review, January, 1965, gave the population within the city limits as 6,900 and in the trade area as 10,500.[1] Ketchikan was on the southwest side of Revillagigedo Island, above the Tongass Narrows, at 131° 39' W., 55° 21' N., with Canada less than a hundred miles away and Seattle some seven hundred miles to the southeast. Temperatures were relatively mild, the yearly average being 46.2°. Rainfall at the rate of 151.93 inches a year made the area one of the wettest in the United States.

The salmon industry in Seattle had long used Ketchikan as an important base of operations and fishing was for many years the most important reason for the town's existence. As a result, the town identified in many ways more closely with Washington State than with northern and western Alaska.

Since 1954, the pulp industry had surpassed fishing as the basis for Ketchikan's economy. In 1964, the Ketchikan Pulp Company's mill operated continuously and directly employed approximately 500 persons. In addition, about 200 men were engaged in the company logging operations and some 400 other loggers were employed by companies supplying the mill.[2]

The Ketchikan labor market included the city of Ketchikan, the residential communities of Mountain Point, Herring Cove, Saxman, Survey Point, Ward Cove, Carlanna, Shoreline Drive, Refuge Cove, Mud Bay, Port Higgins,

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[1] Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions. January, 1965. p. 7.

[2] Ibid., September, 1964. p. 3.

Metlakatla, Annette, and the interconnecting highways.[3]

In September, 1964, there were 5,010 employed persons in the Ketchikan area. There was an unemployment rate of 2.5 per cent at that time. Employment classifications were as follows:[4]

Classification	Number of Persons
Mining	0
Contract Construction	350
Manufacturing	1,400
Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities	700
Trade	590
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	100
Service and Miscellaneous	410
Government	810
Other	650
Total Employment	5,010

Educational facilities. The Ketchikan High School had an enrollment in 1964-1965 of 598; the junior high, 188. There were 2,594 students enrolled in Gateway Borough School District schools. The previous year, twenty girls, about half of those graduating, went on for further schooling. Metlakatla, a part of the Ketchikan trade area, had 106 students enrolled in high school. The only woman on the staff was the vocational home economics teacher.

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[3] Ibid., September, 1964. p. 7.

[4] Ibid., January, 1965. p. 7.

A community college was established in 1954 to offer collegiate courses for academic credit. The courses were offered in the late afternoon and evening, and the courses and instructors were approved and supervised by the University of Alaska. In addition, the college offered vocational and interest courses under the sponsorship of the local school district.

Manpower Development Training courses were taught as requested. Recently there had been a steward-waitress course to train workers for the ferry and another in longshoring. The high school offered vocational courses at the undergraduate level. A retail sales class with work experience was part of the curriculum for 1964-1965. Vocational homemaking was taught in the high school. A counselor expressed the opinion that more job training in the high school with related experience in industry would help curb the dropout problem among fifteen- to sixteen-year old girls.

Health services. The health center of the Department of Health and Welfare employed a full-time public health nurse; and an itinerant nurse covered Annette, Cape Pole, Marguerite Bay, Metlakatla, Red Bay, Thorne Bay, 12 Mile Arm, Craig, Hydaburg, and Klawock.[5]

There was a full-time nurse at the Ketchikan High School. A sixty-five-bed hospital was owned by a church and administered by a board of townspeople.

Welfare. Women receiving welfare aid in the Ketchikan district, covering the area south of Frederick Sound, were as follows:

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[5] Nursing Personnel List, Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Public Health, January, 1965.

Aid to Families with Dependent Children	83
Old-Age Assistance	55
Aid to Disabled	13
Aid to Blind	2
General Relief	2

Women's employment. Businesses in Ketchikan affecting women's employment related to domestic knowledge and skills as listed in the telephone directory were:

Beauty Parlors	6
Restaurants	19
Hotels	6
Grocery Stores	12
Canneries	6
Laundries	3
Cleaners	5
Department Stores	2

A thirty-unit motel with cocktail lounge and dining room was scheduled for completion in 1966.

The hospital employed women for these jobs:

Food Service Workers	14	Licensed Practical Nurses	7
Housekeepers	8	Laboratory Technicians	1
Aides	10	X-Ray Technicians	1
Seamstress	1	Physiotherapist	1
Laundry Workers	4	Clerks	9
Registered Nurses	13		
		Total	69

An employment service agent stated that supply and demand for women employees was about balanced. Employers interviewed suggested the following were always in demand: clerk-steno, office machine operators, bookkeepers, baby sitters, part-time housekeepers, licensed practical nurses, trained waitresses, skilled cannery workers, and retail clerks. Several employers said that although these jobs were filled, it was often by untrained women. An employer indicated that most women employees had worked at their jobs less than four years.

There had been no public day care center for children of working mothers. Some private homes took in several children at a time. The main need for child care was during the fishing season. Centers to care for children (ages six to twelve) of working mothers were started as part of a Community Action Program by the Salvation Army in Saxman, Metlakatla, and Klawock during the summer of 1965. Each center was to hire two teachers, three student aides, one cook, and one custodian.[6] The program was offered for seven weeks during the canning season. Some younger children were enrolled in Operation Headstart in these communities.

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[6] Telephone conversation with Captain Pack, Salvation Army, Juneau, Alaska, July 16, 1965.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION FOR URBAN PLACES OF 2,500 to 10,000: 1960

KETCHIKAN

Total Population	6,483
Native	5,987
Native Parentage	4,932
Foreign or Mixed Parentage	1,055
Foreign Born	496
Female Employed	784
Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers	116
Farmers and Farm Managers	--
Managers, Officials, and Proprietors, Except Farm	58
Clerical and Kindred Workers	239
Sales Workers	67
Craftsmen, Foremen, and Kindred Workers	4
Operatives and Kindred Workers	57
Private Household Workers	70
Service Workers, Except Private Household	154
Farm Laborers and Foremen	--
Laborers, Except Farm and Mine	7
Occupation Not Reported	12

PETERSBURG

Economy and geography. Petersburg, population 1,600, on Kupreanof and Mitkof Islands, at 56° 49' N., 132° 57' W., was considered for many years to be one of the most economically stable communities in Alaska. This reputation was partially earned because of the size of bank deposits in relation to the number of inhabitants. The Norwegians who had settled there had carried with them their habits of frugality as well as resistance to change, noticeable in the buildings and businesses of the town.

The Alaska Marine Highway traffic did not have the positive effect on the economy of the town that some people had expected. There were several vacant business buildings along the main street. Restaurants serving downtown customers in February, 1965, did not make use of some of the modern methods used by similar establishments in other Alaskan towns of the same size.

Government assistance was criticized by many, yet the rate of insured employed was nearly the highest in the State. A State legislator had recently forwarded a resolution to the United States Department of Agriculture asking that Federal support for the Petersburg Experimental Fur Farm be continued for at least one year while State personnel studied the problem. Another resolution was to go to the University of Alaska Board of Regents asking that they investigate the problem and, if necessary, plan for a complete State-supported operation, even if it were on a reduced scale.[7]

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[7] The New Petersburg Press. Petersburg, Alaska, February 5, 1965.

Petersburg had been built upon the fishing industry, with facilities for processing halibut, salmon, shrimp, crabs, and clams. In 1965, local businessmen formed a corporation to buy a large cannery. It was to be operated in connection with gill net fishing and king crab processing. The use of the mess hall and bunk houses was to be discontinued.[8] Some logging was done in the Petersburg area for the Wrangell mill. There were a new, modern motel and a hotel in the main part of town that were open the year around. To be started in 1965 were twelve low-income and twenty-four medium-income housing units.[9]

Educational facilities. The incorporated school district had an elementary school and a high school with 132 students. Vocational homemaking was taught in the secondary school. A bond issue of $65,000 was proposed to build a technical arts building for a high school so that a comprehensive vocational education program could be initiated for those students not planning to go to college.[10]

A University of Alaska extension course in mining was offered at the time of the survey. Occasionally short courses for women were given by an Agricultural Extension agent.

Health services. A twenty-one-bed hospital served the community. A public health nurse, who also served Wrangell, was stationed in Petersburg.

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[8] *The New Petersburg Press*, op. cit.

[9] Figures furnished by Alaska State Housing Authority by telephone, July 22, 1965.

[10] *The New Petersburg Press*, op. cit.

Women's employment. Businesses hiring women in fields interesting to this study were:

Cleaner	1
Laundry	1
General Stores	8
Grocery Stores	2
Hotels	2
Restaurants	4

The hospital hired women, whose ages ranged from twenty to sixty, as follows:

Registered Nurse	5
Aide	1
Housekeeper	1
Secretary	1
Cook	1½

An employment service agent stated that there was a good balance between supply and demand for women employees. Canneries provided much of the work, but there was virtually no activity between February and May first in this industry.

There had been no organized child care for children of working mothers although several people said that it would be a very good thing during the canning season. The Salvation Army, working with the Community Action Program, was to conduct one for six- to twelve-year olds during the summer of 1965 for seven weeks.

WRANGELL

Economy and geography. Wrangell, the second oldest settlement in southeastern Alaska, was on the northern tip of Wrangell Island at 56° 28' N., 132° 23' W., twenty miles from the Canadian border. The processing of seafood had been the main business for many years. The fishing industry supported canneries for shrimp, crab, and salmon. The largest catches were of halibut and salmon which sometimes exceeded 2,000,000 pounds annually.

The output of a Japanese-owned lumber mill comprised over 50 per cent of Alaska's yearly lumber production. It exported about 67.7 million board feet in 1963.[11] Non-saw logs were towed to the Ketchikan and Sitka pulp mills.

A Wrangell businessman stated that it was difficult to get mill employees up from the lower states because of limited housing. Construction of a twenty-four-unit housing project to be rented to families with yearly incomes of $13,500 or less and of a twenty-unit project for low-income families was to be started in 1965.[12]

Educational facilities. An incorporated school district included an elementary school and a 121-student high school that offered vocational home economics. Extension courses in school finance and art under the sponsorship of the University of Alaska had recently been taught. Occasionally, adult classes were led by an Agricultural Extension agent.

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[11] Alaska Monthly Review of Business and Economic Conditions. September, 1964. p. 4.

[12] Figures furnished by Alaska State Housing Authority by telephone, July 22, 1965.

Five of the fifteen girls graduated in 1964 had gone on for further schooling.

Health services. A community hospital with fourteen beds was housed in what had formerly been an Episcopalian mission facility. A public health nurse stationed at Petersburg was assigned to Wrangell.

Women's employment. Women's work was seasonal and largely dependent upon fishing and provided jobs for 108 females during the peak of the canning season. The number of women over sixteen years of age was estimated by one of the town leaders to be 375 to 400. Employment for women was low during the winter, the main jobs being those with professional training requirements such as teaching and nursing. Businesses were small and many were family owned and managed. There were thirteen women teachers and two female secretaries working for the school district.

The community hospital hired women for the following jobs:

Registered Nurse	3
Practical Nurse	1
Cook	1
Laundry Worker	1
Cleaning Woman	1

OCCUPATION GROUP AND CLASS OF WORKER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS BY SEX

WRANGELL-PETERSBURG

Female, Employed		466
Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers		95
Medical and Other Health Workers:	Salaried	18
	Self-Employed	--
Teachers, Elementary and Secondary Schools		46
Other Professional, Etc.:	Salaried	20
	Self-Employed	11
Managers, Officials, and Proprietors, Except Farm		8
Salaried		4
Self-Employed:	Retail Trade	4
	Other than Retail Trade	--
Clerical and Kindred Workers		62
Secretaries, Stenographers, and Typists		4
Other Clerical Workers		58
Sales Workers:	Retail Trade	16
	Other than Retail Trade	11
Craftsmen, Foremen, and Kindred Workers		4
Operatives and Kindred Workers		107
Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing		95
Non-Manufacturing Industries		12
Private Household Workers		57
Service Workers, Except Private Household		44
Waiters, Bartenders, Cooks, and Counter Workers		25
Other Service Workers		19
Laborers, Except Farm and Mine		9
Occupation not Reported		53

EDUCATION CHARACTERISTICS

		Ketchikan	Wrangell-Petersburg
Female, 25 years old and over		2,342	964
No school years completed		27	46
Elementary:	1 to 4 years	70	53
	5 and 6 years	86	28
	7 years	124	35
	8 years	235	165
High School:	1 to 3 years	589	267
	4 years	768	172
College:	1 to 3 years	279	143
	4 years or more	164	55
Median School Years Completed		12.1	10.7

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

	Ketchikan	Wrangell-Petersburg
Total Population	10,070	4,181
Nativity and Parentage		
Native	9,372	3,847
Native Parentage	7,725	3,244
White	5,924	2,086
Non-white	1,801	1,158
Foreign or mixed parentage	1,647	603
White	1,248	434
Non-white	399	169
Foreign born	698	334
White	556	237
Non-white	142	97

INCOME IN 1959 OF FAMILIES AND PERSONS

		Ketchikan	Wrangell-Petersburg
All Families		2,260	962
Under $1,000		60	31
$1,000 to $1,999		59	39
$2,000 to $2,999		112	63
$3,000 to $3,999		143	54
$4,000 to $4,999		130	74
$5,000 to $5,999		189	113
$6,000 to $6,999		172	109
$7,000 to $7,999		204	102
$8,000 to $8,999		272	87
$9,000 to $9,999		203	75
$10,000 to $14,999		547	177
$15,000 to $24,999		158	34
$25,000 and over		11	4
Median Income:	Families	$8,224	$6,982
	Unrelated Individuals	2,800	2,667
	Families and Unrelated Individuals	6,384	6,082
	Husband-Wife Families, one earner, two children under 18	341	129
Median Income		$8,461	--

INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, FEMALE

	Ketchikan	Wrangell-Petersburg
Female	1,087	466
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	25	6
Construction and Mining	7	4
Manufacturing	48	121
... Durable Goods	8	4
Foods and Kindred Products	16	113
... Non-Durable Goods (Incl. not spec. mnfgd.)	24	4
Transportation, Communication, and other Public Utilities	89	21
Wholesale Trade	22	--
Food and Dairy Products Stores	44	17
Eating and Drinking Places	58	15
Other Retail Trade	124	13
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	64	8
Business and Repair Services	15	--
Personal Services	209	70
Entertainment and Recreation Services	12	--
Hospitals	81	15
Educational Services: Government	123	89
Private	24	21
Other Professional and Related Services	74	6
Public Administration	44	7
Industry Not Reported	24	53

AGE OF PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE

	Ketchikan	Wrangell-Petersburg
Female: 14 to 17 years old	93	30
18 to 24 years old	125	70
25 to 34 years old	221	84
35 to 44 years old	291	121
45 to 64 years old	400	202
65 years old and over	30	16
Married Women in Labor Force, Husband Present	775	311
Women in Labor Force with own Children under 6	202	85
Married, Husband Present	180	68
Females, 14 Years Old and Over	2,976	1,263
Labor Force	1,160	523
Employed	1,087	466
Unemployed	73	57

INCOME OF PERSONS

	Ketchikan	Wrangell-Petersburg
Female, Total	2,976	1,263
Total with Income	1,783	836
$1 to $499 or Less	539	177
$500 to $999	247	185
$1,000 to $1,499	115	132
$1,500 to $1,999	131	67
$2,000 to $2,499	142	49
$2,500 to $2,999	100	36
$3,000 to $3,499	124	19
$3,500 to $3,999	56	24
$4,000 to $4,499	92	35
$4,500 to $4,999	65	46
$5,000 to $5,999	71	33
$6,000 to $6,999	68	23
$7,000 to $9,999	22	7
$10,000 and Over	11	3
Median Income:	$1,459	$1,212

SITKA

Economy and geography. Sitka was founded as a Russian village in 1799 near an Indian site on the seaward side of Baranof Island, 57° 03' N., 135° 20' W. It was 1,000 miles from Seattle, 95 miles south of Juneau, and 195 miles northwest of Ketchikan. The population, including that of the government installation, some 500 feet across the channel at Mt. Edgecumbe, numbered 7,000.

The main roads were those connecting the canneries, pulp mills, and airport with the town. Amphibious planes operated by two Alaskan companies served the community. An airstrip was being built. Two steamship lines provided freight service and the Alaska Marine Highway ferry stopped regularly.

The mild climate, with an average annual mean temperature of forty-four degrees, made year-around outdoor work possible. A sixty-six million dollar pulp mill established in 1960 provided employment that exceeded fishing as a source of individual income. The mill, located near town, employed 500 people in 1964 with several hundred engaged in logging operations in the area.[13] The 150,000 tons of pulp produced each year were used in the Japanese rayon industry.

The permanent civilian population at Mt. Edgecumbe was 1,966 in 1960 made up principally of medical and educational professional staff and their families.[14] In 1959, there were 2,793 "non-white" persons living in the

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[13] City of Sitka, Alaska, 1961. Annual Report.

[14] Ibid.

Sitka area. This was almost half of the total population. Residency was fairly stable according to Alaskan standards. Only 1,454 of the 5,825 people five years old and over had lived in a different state five years previously. Since that time, employers at the pulp mill had brought in many workers from other states so the proportion of long-time Alaskan residents had no doubt become smaller since the time of the 1960 census.

Educational facilities. Sitka had been the center for native education in Alaska since the Russians established a school there for Indian children. The Department of Interior operated a boarding school, grades nine through twelve, for students who were at least one-quarter Native. During the school year 1960-1961, 672 children attended. In 1965, there were not enough openings for all of the students who wanted to attend. Preference was given to students from towns and villages in the State that did not have high schools. In 1965, 305 girls were attending and were required to take home economics. In these courses, many girls from remote villages learned to use and care for modern equipment for the first time.

There was a high school, a junior high school, and two elementary schools within the Sitka incorporated district and an elementary school at Mt. Edgecumbe. Vocational home economics was offered in a modern homemaking department in the Sitka High School. Adult education courses were sometimes offered by the Manpower Drvelopment and Training Act, Bureau of Indian Affairs, or extension.

Sheldon Jackson High School and Junior College, a Presbyterian mission, enrolled students from many parts of the State, the majority of whom were Native. Home economics was offered in the high school and the Junior College had classes in foods, clothing construction, the family, general nutrition, and food service. The food service course was popular with male students. The function of the college, according to its catalog, was "to serve students who desire one or two years of training beyond high school, those who desire the first two years of university parallel courses, and adults who wish to continue their education either with or without college credit".[15]

Health services. The United States Public Health Service maintained a 250-bed tuberculosis hospital for Alaskan natives at Mt. Edgecumbe. A community hospital with twenty-three beds served the town's residents.

Women's employment. Interviews with educators and social workers indicated that there was some need for domestic help, skilled food service workers at Mt. Edgecumbe and the Pioneer Home, hospital aides at the latter, homemaker service, and organized child care. The number of employed females in 1965 was estimated at seven hundred.

In addition to the public agencies that provided women's employment opportunities related to home economics such as the hospitals, boarding school, and Pioneer Home, there were the following businesses:

Beauty Salons	4	Hotels	3
Cleaner and Laundry	1	Janitor Service	1
Laundromat	1	Restaurants	10
Drugstores	1	Sewing Centers	2
Florist Shop	1	Women's Apparel Stores	4
Retail Grocers, Including Two Cold Storages	10		

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[15] *Sheldon Jackson High School and Junior College Catalog, 1964-1965*. Sitka, Alaska.

Many of these were "husband-wife" enterprises that used help seasonally or not at all. Female income was not high as indicated by charts following this section. A large number of women were in service work, private households, or retail selling. The higher-paying women's jobs were those requiring professional or technical training in medical and health services. Of 982 female residents in 1959, there were 195 employed in professional, technical, and kindred occupations; 89 in medical and health services; and 57 in education. It would seem reasonable that the native girls attending the Mt. Edgecumbe boarding school should be encouraged to train for these jobs.

INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

SITKA

Female	982
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	5
Manufacturing	46
Food and Kindred Products	4
Apparel and Other Fabricated Textiles	5
... Non-Durable Goods	37
Transportation, Communications, and other Public Utilities	23
Food and Dairy Products Store	13
Eating and Drinking Places	52
Other Retail Trade	52
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	27
Business and Repair Services	13
Personal Services	79
Hospitals	212
Educational Services: Government	82
Private	45
Other Professional and Related Services	48
Public Administration	21
Industry Not Reported	264

INCOME OF PERSONS

SITKA

Female, Total	2,260
Total with Income	1,523
$1 to $499	491
$500 to $999	217
$1,000 to $1,499	81
$1,500 to $1,999	93
$2,000 to $2,499	59
$2,500 to $2,999	49
$3,000 to $3,499	46
$3,500 to $3,999	105
$4,000 to $4,499	137
$4,500 to $4,999	70
$5,000 to $5,999	55
$6,000 to $6,999	64
$7,000 to $9,999	43
$10,000 and Over	13
Median Income:	$1,330

OCCUPATION GROUP AND CLASS OF WORKER

SITKA

Female, Employed	982
Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers	195
Medical and Other Health Workers: Salaried	89
Self-Employed	4
Teachers, Elementary and Secondary Schools	57
Other Professional, Etc.: Salaried	45
Self-Employed	--
Managers, Officials, and Proprietors, Except Farm	43
Salaried	31
Self Employed: Retail Trade	8
Other Than Retail Trade	4
Clerical and Kindred	119
Secretaries, Stenographers, and Typists	26
Other Clerical	93
Sales Workers	54
Retail Trade	41
Other Than Retail Trade	13
Craftsmen, Foremen, and Kindred Workers	7
Operatives and Kindred Workers	28
Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	4
Non-Manufacturing Industries	24
Private Household Workers	61
Service Workers, Except Private Household	210
Waiters, Bartenders, Cooks, and Counter Workers	63
Other Service Workers	147
Laborers, Except Farm and Mine	5
Occupation Not Reported	260

JUNEAU-DOUGLAS

Economy and geography. The capital of Alaska, population 6,797, was on the mainland of the southeastern part of the State about 900 miles northwest of Seattle on the Gastineau Channel at 58° 18' N., 134° 25' W. Three miles away, across the Gastineau Channel by bridge, was the city of Douglas with 1,042 inhabitants. A Chamber of Commerce estimate placed the area population at 13,000 in May, 1965. This included areas along the North Douglas and Glacier Highways, Mendenhall Valley, and Auke Bay. Annual mean temperature was 42°; the July mean, 56°; and January, 29.5°. There was an annual rainfall of eighty-five inches and annual snowfall of one hundred inches. The rain and relatively mild temperatures usually prevented a heavy accumulation of snow.

The economy was primarily dependent upon governmental activities, fishing, forestry, tourists, transportation, trade, and mining. Four airlines served the area, and a steamship company maintained year-around freight service. Two Canadian and one American steamship offered summer passenger service.

Employment within the Juneau labor market was 5,840 in May, 1965. The unemployment rate was 3.6 per cent at that time. Job openings at that time were for civil engineer, social welfare worker, stenographer, typist, and baby sitter.[16] A Youth Opportunity Campaign was expected to affect summer employment. A Neighborhood Youth Corps supplied work for clerical aides, nurses' aides, Operation Headstart, and recreation workers.

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[16] Labor Market Newsletter, "Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed", Table IV. Employment Security Division, Alaska Department of Labor, Alaska State Employment Service, Juneau. Volume V, Number 5, May, 1965.

Employment for May, 1965, was:[17]

Mining	10
Contract Construction	280
Manufacturing	160
Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities	490
Trade	560
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	130
Service and Miscellaneous	500
Government	3,090

Seasonality was typical for some occupations. The number of insured jobless persons was down 35 per cent in May from the previous month due mainly to contract construction and manufacturing activity.

Educational facilities. There were 874 students in the high school, 230 in the junior high school, and 2,060 in elementary schools in the Greater Juneau Borough School District in 1964-1965. Community college courses were held at night in cooperation with the University of Alaska. Daytime freshman college courses were planned for the following year. There were two parochial schools, one Seventh Day Adventist and the other Roman Catholic.

Health services. An eighty-bed hospital was run by the Roman Catholic Church. A United States Public Health Center was in operation with two full-time nurses.

Women's employment. Since 3,090 of the 5,840 persons employed in May of 1965 were in government, it was obvious that opportunities for women would be mainly in the clerical field. Employers' requests during the month of June were as follows:

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[17] Ibid.

Type of Work	Placements	Unfilled
Domestic and Cleaning	10	1
Child Care	5	9
Service	20	2
Draftsmen	--	1
Clerical	25	16
Professional	6	1
Retail Sales	2	--

There were four private day nurseries for children.

HAINES

Economy and geography. A cluster of small business and government buildings, family residences, and an Army post that had been adapted to civilian use made up the area known as Haines-Port Chilkoot with a population of 512 at 59° 14' N., 135° 26' W., on the northern end of Lynn Canal about eighty miles north of Juneau and twenty miles southwest of Skagway. At one time it had been an Indian village, later a mission, then an Army fort, and finally an important link for road and ferry travel between the Interior, southeastern Alaska, and states to the south.

The climate was typical of southeastern Alaska with high average annual rainfall. This weather encouraged the growth of forests, most of which had been untouched, although a few sawmills were in operation. Mineral deposits had been discovered but were virtually undeveloped.

Tourist trade, fishing, lumbering, and light manufacturing of arts and crafts were the main businesses. An Area Redevelopment Administration technical assistance project for developing enterprises to mass produce Alaskan craft items was approved in 1965. Forty workers, mostly Indians, were being trained under the Manpower Training and Development Act. Women were studying art, lapidary work, and textile design. The buildings of the former Army post were used for those projects as well as for tourist facilities. An interest had been developed for the preservation of Indian folk customs as well as native crafts and this area had become somewhat famous for activities of that nature.

Agriculture on a small scale had been practiced since the time of the first Outside settlers. The area had become particularly well known for its strawberries and some small businesses had been based upon the sale of plants and berry products.

Educational facilities. There were an elementary school and a seventy-seven-student high school with vocational homemaking. Manpower Development and Training was offered, as mentioned earlier. Some of the students involved in that program came from other parts of Alaska. Some of those from the local area had been dropouts. Several were girls who had married early and had families. Some physically disabled were being trained.

Seven of the ten girls graduating from high school the previous year were continuing their studies.

Health services. There were a doctor, a dentist, and an X-ray technician as well as an itinerant public health nurse. The short flight to Juneau made it possible for people in this area to make use of hospital service there.

Women's employment. Besides the eight women school teachers, there were around twenty others regularly employed. This number included: three grocery clerks, three dry goods clerks, two bookkeepers, three secretaries, three bank employees, one hotel maid, an X-ray technician, and a part-time nurse. Other women workers were helping with family-owned businesses. The number of women involved in food service varied with the seasons and tourist travel.

A day care center was planned as part of a Community Action Program for the summer of 1965 for twenty-five to thirty-five children under eight years of age.

HOONAH

Economy and geography. This Tlingit Indian village on the northeast coast of Chichagof Island in southeastern Alaska had a population of 686 in 1960 and nearly 800 in 1965. The estimated 125 families in the town lived along three streets at the foot of heavily wooded mountains. A mild climate and ice-free waters made year-around seine fishing possible. During a good season, fishermen could expect to make several thousand dollars. Fish processing provided work for many men and women. Some residents went to Excursion Inlet, twenty miles south, for the summer fishing season. Others found employment in Juneau or Sitka. The standard of living was considered high for a small fishing community. Sturdy frame houses with modern furnishings, many with indoor plumbing, reflected the prosperity enjoyed during good fishing years. A White Alice site added about twenty-five non-Indian people to the community. Other than these, most of the Hoonah residents were natives. Members of an active chapter of the Alaska Native Brotherhood made frequent use of a large community hall.

Wharves with docking facilities, an oil and fuel business, three general stores, a small hotel, a coffeehouse, a luggage store, and two movie houses made up the business community. Daily plane service to Juneau and fishing villages enroute was scheduled the year around. A large amount of travel between villages was by boat.

Subsistence activities still played an important part in the economy. Birds, deer, and other animals as well as fish were stored for winter use. Most of the opportunities for paid employment were available in the summer.

There was no welfare agent in Hoonah since cases were handled out of Juneau. Ray stated that welfare payments were low during the summer months and mounted steadily until early spring, and that in 1961 a State work relief project for depressed communities was initiated in Hoonah. At that time, sixty-three families received some sort of financial relief from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.[18]

Ray also pointed out that there was more reliance on cash for purchasing food, clothing, furniture, and luxury items than in Eskimo villages included in his study. He said, furthermore, that "It . . . appears that expenditures for alcoholic beverages are high in Hoonah and that they constitute a considerable drain on the existing limited income."[19] It will be recalled that similar remarks by residents of the Arctic villages were quoted earlier in this report.

Educational facilities. The Hoonah School District had one elementary school and a high school with 190 students. The latter had been operating for two years. Prior to that time, most of the students had gone to Mt. Edgecumbe High School after completion of the eighth grade, or to Sheldon Jackson, a parochial school in Sitka. A vocational homemaking teacher was hired for 1965-1966. The high school had been well received by the community. School basketball games were a popular social event and helped dispel the tedium of village life.

The District had offered courses for adults in Spanish, leather work, and typing the preceding year and a Manpower Training course in fishing. Two of the three girls graduated from the high school had gone on for further study---one to beauty school and the other for secretarial training. The third had married.

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[18] Charles K. Ray, Joan Ryan, and Seymour Parker, Alaskan Native Secondary School Dropouts: A Research Report. University of Alaska, 1962. p. 213.

[19] Ibid.

Women's employment. Opportunities for women's work were found to be greatest from April to November. Crab and salmon catches were processed during those months providing employment for about fifty women. A woman could expect to earn at least a thousand dollars for a summer's work during a good year.

The small businesses were family owned hiring little help. Winter jobs were available for about eleven women. Around twenty women sewed craft products for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

A day care center for children of working mothers administered by the Hoonah Public Schools in cooperation with the State Division of Public Welfare and other agencies was offered for the second year. Seventeen women, some part-time employees, had worked with the demonstration day care center in 1964. The popularity of the center seemed to be based as much on the fact that it provided employment for women as on the care it gave to the children. Women of the community were very anxious to see it offered every summer.

CORDOVA

Economy and geography. According to the 1960 census, the Cordova-McCarthy Election District included the following populated areas:

Boswell Bay	32
Cordova	1,128
Meakerville	48
Point Whitshed	28
Yakataga	48

Cordova was on the eastern side of Prince William Sound at 60° 33' N., 145° 46' W. Fishing and fish processing were the main businesses of the community. Road building and the construction of a small boat harbor provided employment in 1965. Many of the businesses in town were service or trade establishments and were family operated.

At the time of the 1960 census reporting, 905 of the 1,759 residents had recently moved into their houses. A fourteen-unit, low-rent and a twenty-four-unit, medium-income housing project were to be built.[20]

Both north and southbound planes stopped daily. During the summer, there was a weekly ferry from Seward. Another Alaska Marine Highway ship made two round trips each week between Valdez and Cordova. Privately owned steamships provided regular freight service.

Educational facilities. A kindergarten, an elementary school, and a high school with 106 students were administered within an incorporated school district. There was no hot lunch program. One year of non-vocational home economics was offered. According to the superintendent, adult education was offered as demanded. Recently, a Manpower Development and Training class in diesel engines had been taught.

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[20] Figures furnished by Alaska State Housing Authority by telephone July 22, 1965.

Of the eleven girls graduated in 1964, four had entered college, two were taking a nursing course, and another was attending beauty school.

Health services. There was a twenty-two bed, church-owned hospital. Many of the patients were elderly men receiving Old Age Assistance. Food service was provided under contract with meals being prepared in another place and brought in.

Women's employment. The number of women working in canneries during the height of the season was estimated to be two hundred. The season was from May until September. During the winter, canneries could be expected to hire twelve to twenty women. There were around twenty women who fished commercially, usually on a family-owned boat.

The hospital hired the following women:

Administrator	1
Nurse's Aide	1
Dishwasher	1
Registered Nurses	4
Technician	1
Secretary	1
Laundress	1

Most of the employees had worked there less than four years.

Eleven women teachers and two female secretaries were working for the school district in 1965.

Hotel and restaurant trade was highly seasonal. The number of women working in these service industries in 1959 are given in the tables at the end of this section. The telephone directory listed four hotels, one motel, three grocery stores, four restaurants, two beauty parlors, one bakery, one laundry and cleaner, and one washeteria.

OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED FEMALES

CORDOVA

Female, Employed	130
Professional, Technical, and Kindred	32
Managers, Officials, and Proprietors, Except Farm	8
Clerical and Kindred Workers	33
Sales Workers	11
Operatives and Kindred Workers	19
Private Household Workers	3
Service Workers, Except Private Household	20
Occupation Not Reported	4

The 1959 census figures show the seasonality of all labor. Of the 998 persons who were reported as working in 1959, 663 worked less than thirty-nine weeks.

AGES OF FEMALE PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE

CORDOVA

Age in Years	Number
14 to 17	--
18 to 24	21
25 to 34	42
35 to 44	45
45 to 64	42
65 Years Old and Over	--
Married Women in Labor Force, Husband Present	88
Women in Labor Force with Own Children Under 6	40
Married, Husband Present	28

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

CORDOVA

Female, 25 Years Old and Over		360
No School Years Completed		10
Elementary:	1 to 4 Years	6
	5 and 6 Years	10
	7 Years	28
	8 Years	51
High School:	1 to 3 Years	74
	4 Years	99
College:	1 to 3 Years	33
	4 Years or More	49
Median School Years Completed:		12.0

These figures show that over one-fourth of the women twenty-five years old and over had an eighth grade education or less.

INCOME OF PERSONS

CORDOVA

Female, Total	434
Total with Income	280
$1 to $499 or Less	66
$500 to $999	55
$1,000 to $1,499	29
$1,500 to $1,999	7
$2,000 to $2,499	15
$2,500 to $2,999	22
$3,000 to $3,499	15
$3,500 to $3,999	4
$4,000 to $4,999	26
$4,500 to $4,999	8
$5,000 to $5,999	13
$6,000 to $6,999	12
$7,000 to $9,999	8
$10,000 and Over	--
Median Income:	$1,328

INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED FEMALES

CORDOVA

Female		130
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries		5
Manufacturing		15
Food and Kindred Products		15
Transportation, Communications, and Other Public Utilities		15
Eating and Drinking Places		9
Other Retail Trade		15
Personal Services		13
Entertainment and Recreation Services		4
Hospitals		8
Educational Services:	Government	24
	Private	--
Other Professional and Related Services		4
Public Administration		14
Industry Not Reported		4

CONCLUSIONS

After this study was started, the Economic Opportunity Act had begun to function effectively in many communities with the following programs helping to combat poverty in Alaska: Youth Corps, Project Headstart, Work-Study for College Students, Work Experience for Welfare Recipients, VISTA, Day Care Centers, Farmers' Home Administration Loans, and Technical Assistance in Community Action Programs. However, there was still much to be done toward providing more and better employment for women so that the standard of living in many families could approach the norm that has become accepted in America as decent living.

In summary, the study showed that:

(1) There are enough opportunities for women's employment in the domestic-related field to justify training programs.

(2) Women in Alaska cannot be expected to make enough money at native craftwork to contribute substantially to the family's economic welfare.

(3) Many women seeking work in Alaska are unskilled.

(4) Many Alaskan families are living in substandard housing because of inadequate income to pay for available higher quality living quarters.

(5) Job opportunities in the larger Alaskan towns are plentiful for trained women but are scarce for the untrained.

(6) Domestic work has such low social status that many women prefer to work for less money at other low-skill jobs.

(7) The status of domestic employment should improve if employers were more aware of the necessity for a professional relationship with employees.

(8) Emotional instability and the misuse of alcohol are factors that limit the ability of many women to hold jobs.

(9) A wife's choice of work is still often dependent upon her husband's approval.

(10) Most native women in the work force are in lower-paying, unskilled jobs.

(11) Food and hotel service throughout Alaska would improve with more trained workers.

(12) The physically handicapped are benefiting from vocational rehabilitation training programs.

(13) There is a large turnover among Alaskan working women.

(14) There are few job-oriented courses in home economics for high school students or adults in Alaska.

(15) Home economics courses of any kind are absent from many communities in Alaska where the standard of living indicates that individuals could well benefit from this type of training.

(16) Federal and State agencies can help provide more employment opportunities for women, as well as a community service, by setting up more day care centers and hot lunch programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion, the following recommendations are made:

(1) The effort to prevent high school dropouts should be increased.

(2) High schools should offer intensive courses in home economics for wage earning in schools where the dropout rate is high.

(3) Training programs should be based upon a study of community needs and consultations with prospective employers.

(4) Vocational education staffs should work closely with social welfare personnel to plan programs that will help decrease the number of recipients of welfare payments.

(5) Vocational education for women should include courses in money management and the use of credit.

(6) The number of public-supported day care centers should be increased.

(7) Employers of women in low-skill jobs should pay adequate wages while upgrading job standards to provide an incentive for better work.

(8) More job counseling should be done for students and adult job seekers.

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APPENDIX
A

EMPLOYER SURVEY

Employer_________________________ Population_____________ Women Employees______

Type of work done by women:

- ______ Agriculture
- ______ Construction
- ______ Manufacturing
  - ______ Durable Goods
  - ______ Food and Kindred Products
  - ______ Apparel
  - ______ Other
- ______ Transportation, Communication and other Public Utilities
- ______ Wholesale Trade
- ______ Food and Dairy Products Stores
- ______ Eating and Drinking Places
- ______ Other Retail Trade
- ______ Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
- ______ Business and Repair Services
- ______ Hospitals
- ______ Educational Services
  - ______ Government
  - ______ Private
- ______ Other Professional and Related Services
- ______ Public Administration
- ______ Other

If women's work seasonal, during what time of year?
Spring_____ Summer_____ Fall_____ Winter_____

Typical monthly earnings of the individual woman:
Dollars: 100____ 200____ 300____ 400____ 500____
600____ 700____ 800____ 900____ 1,000____

Does the job require skill? Yes____ No____

Is previous training necessary for the job? Yes____ No____

What are the ages of the women employed? __________________

How many women have been on this job for:

Less than one year_______
Less than two years______
Less than three years_____
Less than four years_____
Less than five years_____
Less than ten years______

Number of physically handicapped employed__________________
Type of Handicap____

APPENDIX
B

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Name of Town____________________________ Population_____________ Date______________

Geographical location______________________________

Main business or industry__________________________

Number of women over 16 years of age_______________

Child Care Facilities______________________________

Schools____

Hospital: Yes_____ No______

Adult Education Programs in Action:
- Manpower Development
- BIA
- Vocational
- Extension

Employment Service Office here: Yes______ No______

Number of women receiving welfare aid______________

Number of girls attending schools elsewhere________

Indicated training needs for available occupations:
- Domestic___________
- Clerical___________
- Food Service_______
- Hospital___________
- Sewing_____________
- Institutional child care_________
- Other______________

Current employment, female_______________

Unfilled vacancies for female employment_______________

Enough trained women available: Yes______ No______

Projected female worker requirements 12 months hence____________

APPENDIX
C

INDIVIDUAL SURVEY

Town________________________ Population________ Date____________

Married: Yes____ No____ Husband deceased__________ Divorced__________

Age________ Years of residence in Alaska______ Children______ Ages________

Years of education__________________ Age at termination of education_______

Husband's Occupation_________________ Part time________ Full time________

Type of work:

____White Collar
____Manager, Official, or Proprietor
____Sales
____Operative
____Laborer
____Professional, Technical, and Kindred
____Clerical or Kindred
____Craftsman, Foreman, or Kindred
____Handicraft
____Service

Jobs you have held since termination of schooling:

____Agriculture
____Construction
____Manufacturing
    ____Durable goods
    ____Food and Kindred Products
    ____Apparel
    ____Other
____Transportation, Communication, and other Public Utilities
____Wholesale Trade
____Food and Dairy products stores
____Other Retail Trade
____Eating and Drinking Places
____Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate
____Business and Repair services
____Hospitals
____Educational services
    ____Government
    ____Private
____Other Professional and Related services
____Public Administration
____Other

If you work regularly, what type of work?______________________________

What percentage of the family income do your contribute?__________________

What organizations do you belong to?

___Social
___Church
___Political
___Union
___Professional
___Community Service

Did your training in school prepare you for the main jobs you have held?
Yes____ No____

Have you had job training since school? Yes____ No____
If so, check type:
On the job______
Adult Education Courses______
Private Schools______

If not working:
Are you planning to work this year? Yes____ No____
Within the next five years? Yes____ No____

If a training course for wage-earning occupations were offered, would you care to attend? Yes____ No____

APPENDIX D

COMMUNITIES VISITED

Barrow
Kotzebue
Nome
Savoonga
Gambell
Dillingham
Bethel
Aniak
Stony River
Fairbanks
Fort Yukon
McGrath
Tyonek
Anchorage
Palmer
Wasilla
Willow
Talkeetna
Seward
Kenai
Homer
Kodiak
Ketchikan
Petersburg
Wrangell
Sitka
Juneau-Douglas
Haines
Hoonah
Cordova